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The Jerusalem Post

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Mordechai touts forming coalition with Likud

By HEIDI J. GLEIT. and DANNA HARMAN

Though he left the Likud and the government to lead the Center Party, Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday that he would consider forming a coalition with the Likud after the elections.

"I don't agree with the leadership style and the path of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, but I will not rule out the possibility of talking with him," Mordechai explained to pupils at Ramat Gan's Blich High School, adding that he does not consider Netanyahu unfit for office.

A spokeswoman for Dan Meridor, who is Center's No. 3, clarified last night that under no circumstances would the party join a coalition which Netanyahu heads – but if Mordechai wins, all parties will be invited to join him.

Mordechai, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Dan Meridor, and Ronni Milo will officially launch the Center Party this evening at the Tel Aviv Cinerama.

The party list will not be presented, and neither will the party platform, but some 5,000 invitations have been sent out to the event, and organizers say the Cinerama hall – which has a capacity of 3,000 – will be overflowing with people.

The event will feature speeches by the four leaders as well as the two women on the list – Dalia Rabin-Pelosoff and Nehama Ronen. In addition, former Likud and Labor supporters who have switched allegiances to the Center Party will speak.

Both the list and the platform, which many believed would be presented at the launch, are still being settled and will be presented by the end of the month, according to party spokesman Menashe Raz. Officially, the party list must be presented to the national election committee by March 31.

Meanwhile, more and more contenders for each spot seem to be sprouting, with the most watched race being that for the fifth seat. The two men being cited as most likely to be given the spot are Uri Savir – who is Shahak's choice, and David Magen – Meridor's choice.

"It is true that there are more people who want seats than there are seats available," said Milo. "But I see this as a good problem. I am thrilled that instead of having to look for party members – as detractors predicted early on – we are being overwhelmed by them."

Mordechai, speaking to reporters in Tel Aviv yesterday, said there are "about 20 contenders for seat No. 5 at this point."

See CENTER, Page 2



Hodaya Amsalem recovers in Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital yesterday. (Scoop 80)

Dog seriously injures six-year-old girl

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Police yesterday detained the owner of a dog which seriously injured a six-year-old girl in Jerusalem's Gilo section on Monday morning. He will probably be charged with negligence.

Hodaya Amsalem was walking with her mother, Maggie, toward the family car, when she was attacked by the Mastino Napolitani, which was not wearing a leash. She was taken to Shaare Zedek Hospital suffering from serious bites and scratches to her hands and face and a compound fracture of one hand.

Hospital officials said she is receiving antibiotics intravenously and will remain in the hospital for several days.

A neighbor who heard Hodaya's screams and her mother's calls for help ran to their assistance and managed to chase the dog away.

Speaking to reporters yesterday, Maggie Amsalem related the events of the previous day.

"Hodaya opened the door to the building and suddenly a dog attacked her. It tore her clothing and rolled her down the steps and bit her. I tried to push the dog away, but I couldn't... I didn't know what to do and screamed for help, hoping the neighbors or someone in a passing car would hear and save her.

"Hodaya called out to me: 'Mommy, save me! I am going to die!' I couldn't do anything."

Yesterday, police tracked down the dog, which was transferred to the Jerusalem Municipality's Veterinary Services, where it is currently impounded. Its owner was called in for questioning and police will probably charge him with negligence, said police spokeswoman Segal Toledano.

She said the police has a list of dangerous dogs which, by law, must be tied up and not allowed to run freely. All owners should ensure that their dogs are on a leash and muzzled when outside, she added.

Dr. Tommy Sadeh, head of the veterinary service, said that only after the attack did neighbors claim the dog was allowed to run around freely. "It is the worst case of dog bite I have seen in several years," he added.

Sadeh pointed out that since the beginning of the year, some 20 dogs have been impounded by the service. The municipality does not have a list of dangerous breeds, he said, pointing out that all breeds of dogs can be dangerous if their owners are irresponsible and allow them to run freely.

No one had complained about the dog before the attack, he said, and after the dog is tested for rabies, it will not be returned to its owner, but probably transferred to the security forces. The owner has the right to appeal the decision, he added.

Sadeh called on the public to complain if they see dogs running freely. "We can't patrol every street, but the public should notify us. By doing so they can prevent such attacks. People shouldn't be afraid of dog owners; they must alert us."



The Mastino Napolitani (Flash 90)

'Tze'elim report clears Barak' – Sneh

Livnat: Everyone can judge for himself

By LIAT COLLINS and DANNA HARMAN

The State Comptroller's Report on the 1992 Tze'elim 2 training accident, released to a select group of people yesterday, exonerates then-chief of General Staff and now Labor Party leader Ehud Barak from any wrongdoing, Labor MK Ephraim Sneh said yesterday.

Members of the Knesset State Control Committee, which oversees the military, got first look at the report.

"I read the entire report, including the part that deals with the evacuation of the wounded. There was nothing wrong with the evacuation of the wounded and nothing wrong with the action of the chief of General Staff at the time, Ehud Barak," said Sneh, a member of the committee.

IDF: We have improved safety, Page 2

The report, according to other sources, finds that Barak did not abandon injured soldiers in the field or give different accounts of the incident to the two investigative committees.

Sources close to Barak said that the report, which is not yet available for publication, could boost his standing in the prime ministerial race. Barak has steadily denied lingering allegations that he abandoned the scene after five soldiers were killed by a missile mistakenly fired during a training exercise. Two senior officers were court-martialed and reprimanded for the accident.

"Two questions need to be asked," Communications Minister Limor Livnat said last night. "Did Barak take off [in his helicopter] before the wounded were evacuated? And did he do all that needed to be done so that the wounded were treated at the site before they were evacuated?

"I know that in answer to the first question, the report cleared Barak. Regarding the second question, the report left it open and did not determine that Barak did all that needed to be done in the field. Everyone will be able to judge for himself how the report answers these two questions when it is published."

If the report unequivocally exonerates Barak, it is likely that Labor will use it to condemn the Likud's previous reactions as libel, as Sneh did yesterday. It would also probably be used to accuse the Likud of incitement. Depending on its conclusions – and exact wording – it is likely that once the report is published, it will become a tool in the election campaign.

Barak, who has not yet read the report, promised to respond in detail once he received and went through it. He stressed that he is "sure the report will show that the slander against me is without basis." He called upon those in whose hands the report lies to act immediately to make it public.

Sneh demanded an apology from Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu for Likud implications that Barak ran away from the scene after the incident. Hanegbi has used the affair to attack Barak in the Knesset plenum, playing on the Labor leader's name with the phrase "Ehud *barah*" (Ehud fled), and Likud campaign slogans have included phrases like: "Barak flees responsibility."

Besides Sneh, those who received the report yesterday were committee chairman Yossi Katz (Labor), Netanyahu, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz. Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman Uzi Landau, who is also meant to review the report, is currently in the US.

The report will be published next week after a three-member subcommittee of the State Control and Foreign Affairs and Defense committees has met to decide which parts of the classified 111-page document can be published. It is then to be given to the bereaved families, before the unclassified sections are released to the public.

Katz called on Landau to return early for the meeting "because of the public sensitivity of the report."

He also called for the report to be kept out of political arguments and said he believes the public will rely on the judgment of the state comptroller, who is above politics. "I think this report must be kept completely separate from the election campaign currently going on. No ruling by either the state comptroller or the courts should become involved in political or party matters," he said.



Labor MK Ehud Barak (Brian Hendler)

"The report is written in a serious, professional, and fair manner," said Sneh. "In my opinion, it ends the affair. It cannot, of course, end the suffering of the families whose sons were killed in this disaster. [But] there is no basis for the libel against... Barak."

Five soldiers died and six were injured in the accident, which foreign press reports claimed occurred while troops from the elite General Staff Reconnaissance Unit trained for a mission to assassinate Saddam Hussein.

The report was concluded by State Comptroller Eliezer Goldberg, after his predecessor, Miriam Ben-Porat, decided not to deal with the issue of the evacuation of the injured in her interim conclusions in 1997, saying too much time had passed and it would be too difficult to reach the truth.

This decision was taken despite a request from Barak, who in newspaper reports three years after the incident had been accused by soldiers of abandoning the injured and leaving the area in his helicopter. Barak has consistently rejected the charges and said he has nothing to fear from the truth.

Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, then deputy chief of General Staff, was also present at the accident, as were several other senior officers, including Amiram Levine, now deputy chief of the Mossad, and Uri Saguy. Previous investigations have focused on the roles of Levine, who was in charge of the operation, and Saguy, then OC Intelligence, as well as Barak.

Lotto draw postponed

Citing an electricity blackout, Mifal Hapayis, the state lottery, last night postponed its NIS 22 million Lotto draw until today, saying results would be announced at 11 p.m.

A spokesman said Mifal Hapayis headquarters in Tel Aviv had suffered a power failure yesterday afternoon, which caused disruptions to its central computer system. But the Israel Electric Corporation denied there had been any outages in the area.

Because of the delay, Mifal Hapayis decided that Lotto forms may still be filled out until 9 tonight for the lottery, the second largest in the country's history.

Jerusalem Post Staff

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Italy fetes Iran's Khatami

By STEVE PAGANI

ROME (Reuters) – Iranian President Mohammed Khatami received a warm welcome yesterday at the start of a three-day state visit to Italy and the Vatican. The visit is seen as opening a new epoch in relations between Teheran and the West.

"The Islamic republic, having reached maturity, is more prepared to expand such relations. With good will, we can have better ties," Khatami said before leaving on the first state visit by an Iranian president to Western Europe since the fall of the shah in 1979.

Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro greeted Khatami amid colorful state pageantry at the Quirinale presidential palace, where the Iranian president inspected a guard of honor.

Asked why he believes the trip to Italy is important, Khatami told reporters amid a crush of TV cameras in the Quirinale: "As you know, each visit has a means of friendship which is very important for our country."

Italy is rolling out the red carpet for the reformist Shi'ite cleric, who Italian ministers believe has set Iran on a course of modernization and has shown the best signs of Teheran wanting to open up to the West since the overthrow of the shah.

But Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema and Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini, who held talks with President Bill Clinton last week, have pledged to stress their reservations over Iran's human rights record and urge Khatami to back nuclear non-proliferation.

Despite opposition to the visit from about a third of Italy's parliamentarians, leaders of the center-left government have underlined what they said is the need now to show clear support for Khatami and his reformists, against conservatives and traditionalist clergy who still wield clout in Iran.

"He faces opposition from the more conservative members of Islamic society, but he has the support, as shown by the recent elections, of the young, women, and the Iranian people in general," Dini told Italian television.

He said the US is watching the visit "with great interest."

While Washington has slightly softened its line toward Iran, it still accuses the country of supporting terrorism and seeking to acquire weapons of mass destruction.

The US has accused Russian firms of helping Iran develop nuclear and missile programs and has imposed sanctions on 10 Russian companies and research institutes.

Trade, in particular in the oil and gas sector, is likely to be central in talks between the two nations. A source close to Italian energy company ENI said contacts between ENI officials and members of the Iranian delegation are likely.

"It is conceivable there will be contacts between members of President Khatami's delegation and ENI officials," the source said. "He is accompanied by a host of other individuals who have a specific interest in what ENI could do in Iran."

ENI and French oil company Elf-Aquitaine last week signed a $1 billion deal with the National Iranian Oil Company to develop the offshore Doroud oil field.

While Khatami and his entourage were being feted at the presidential palace, less than a kilometer away, near the ruins of ancient Rome, thousands of Iranian opposition activists and their supporters protested the visit.

Iranians opposed to Khatami say little has changed since he won power 21 months ago, alleging that more than 300 people have been publicly executed, nine people stoned to death, and 28 dissidents assassinated abroad.



Miss Israel 1999

Rana Raslan, 21, from Haifa, is crowned Miss Israel 1999 in Tel Aviv last night. Raslan is the first Arab to win the Miss Israel pageant. 'It doesn't matter if I'm Arab or Jewish,' she said after being crowned by former Miss Israel and Miss World Linor Abergil. 'We must show the world that we can live together.' (Mati Milstein/Israel Sun)

NEWS
in brief

Clinton thanks PM for 'support' over Lewinsky

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu received a letter yesterday from President Bill Clinton thanking him for his support during the Monica Lewinsky ordeal, an official at the Prime Minister's Office said.

In the letter, Clinton said he appreciated Netanyahu's "support and encouragement," and said that the prime minister's "unwavering friendship was a source of strength," for him throughout the difficult period.

Danna Harman

Hollander, Rubinstein: Fewer political diplomats

Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander, together with Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, yesterday recommended to the government that from now on the number of politically-appointed diplomats be nine – and not 11 as is currently accepted.

In addition, Hollander and Rubinstein recommended that no more than five of these appointments be in the United States or Western Europe, so as to allow career diplomats to fill more of the senior posts.

"In an effort to prevent the appointment of people without the necessary qualifications," wrote the men in the recommendation, "... it had been decided that each candidate will be brought to the appointments committee – headed by the civil service commissioner – to be approved."

Danna Harman

Move to tie US aid to Palestinians with MIAs

US Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R, Colorado) plans to present a bill to the congress this week asking that it hold back funding to Syria and the Palestinians until they provide information on the Israeli MIAs.

Miriam Baumel, mother of MIA Zachary Baumel who has been missing since 1982, flew to Washington yesterday to be present when the bill is introduced in Congress.

"I think this bill has a good chance of passing," said Miriam's husband Yona. "And the message will get across loud and clear, which is important."

Danna Harman

Little progress in Lebanon negotiations

"When Lebanon is freed of Israeli occupation, the [Lebanese] army will, of course, deploy along the border with Israel," said Lebanese Defense Minister Ghazi Zeayter in an interview with the *An-Nahar* daily yesterday.

He said the Lebanese army, while less formidable than the IDF, is capable of defending the border.

On Monday Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri rejected Israel's request to change the April 1996 Grapes of Wrath understandings.

He said he anticipates US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk, in his upcoming visit to region, will try to expedite a renegotiation, but that there was "no chance" of this succeeding.

Itim

Four hurt in security zone collision

Three IDF soldiers, including an officer, were injured yesterday when their vehicle collided with a South Lebanese Army vehicle in the security zone.

They were taken to Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed, where one was described as in satisfactory condition and the other two as in good condition. The driver of the SLA vehicle was lightly injured. The Military Police is investigating the accident.

Itim

Zionist leader Herman Weisman dies

Herman Weisman, a former New York prosecutor of mobsters and Zionist leader, died at the age of 95, of heart failure Sunday at Hospice of Palm Beach County, his son, Edward Weisman announced yesterday. Weisman immigrated from Odessa, Russia, at age 4. Twenty-one years later, he graduated with honors from Harvard Law School. Early in his career, Weisman was appointed to special posts in New York state's Office of the Attorney General. There, his oldest son said, he tangled with "Murder Inc.," a specialized group of contract killers organized by Lucky Luciano and Bugsy Siegel. He also was a dedicated leader of the American Zionist movement, serving as president of several Zionist organizations.

AP

With deep sorrow we announce the death in New York of

HERMAN MERKIN

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, March 10, 1999, at 6:30 p.m. (approximately two and a half hours after the arrival of El Al Flight 008 from New York), at the Har Tamir Funeral Hall, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem. Further details at 02-6257751.

Mourned by:
His wife: **Ulla Merkin**
His children: **Dinah and Andrew Mendes, Deborah and Lewis Gerber, J. Ezra and Lauren Merkin, Daphne Merkin, Solomon and Sharon Merkin, David and Rebecca Merkin.**
His sister: **Eva Bondi.**

Shiva at the Jerusalem Plaza, Apartment 2124, King George Blvd. 47, until Saturday night, thereafter in New York.

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

Extends its sincere condolences to

HELEN CONWAY

Member of the University's Board of Governors
on the passing of her brother

DAVID POMSON

Heartfelt sympathy to the entire family

Authorities back down on removal of encampment in Samaria

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Plans by the Civil Administration of Judea and Samaria to tear down an encampment on a hill near the settlement of Itamar were thwarted yesterday, after settlers called on the Prime Minister's Office, the Defense Ministry, and National Religious Party MKs to prevent it.

Amana settlement organization head Ze'ev Hever said the encampment was set up several months ago on state land and comes under Itamar's outline plan. "Why the sudden decision now?" he asked on Israel Radio.

Minister of Education and National Religious Party leader Yitzhak Levy, who was touring the area, arrived at the site as preparations were being made to demolish structures there.

He immediately called government officials to protest the move.

Speaking on Arutz 7, he said "I'm not sure why the order to evacuate was given, but I hope it was just a misunderstanding and that it won't repeat itself."

Soldiers and police left the site toward noon after receiving instructions to refrain from dismantling the encampment, which was set up by Chayil, a group of secular Jews who plan to establish a neighborhood there for some 30 families.

Civil administration spokesman Lt. Peter Lerner said the encampment is clearly illegal and outside Itamar's planning scheme.

Peace Now declared it was an outrage that political pressure from a small group of settlers succeeded in causing the IDF and civil administration to buckle. "Postponing the demolition is proof of the settlers' ability to manipulate Netanyahu's government for their own purposes," said a statement issued by the movement.

In addition, Peace Now claimed that a petition to the High Court of Justice against the civil administration and Defense Ministry last December 28 listed 10 illegal encampments that had been allowed to remain.

Lerner said the civil administration must ensure that law and order is maintained and illegal construction – whether by Palestinians or Israelis – must be prevented.

In Hebron, meanwhile, members of the Jewish community refused to accept four new caravans slated to replace old ones at Tel Rumeida.

Their refusal was in protest against a decision by the IDF to reopen the street leading to the neighborhood to Palestinian traffic, which community spokesman Noam Arnon said endangers their security.

"There is no reason why every step forward in the development of Hebron's Jewish community should be accompanied by a gesture to the Arabs that endangers our security," he said.

Officer wounded near El Aroub refugee camp

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

An IDF officer was lightly injured when stones were thrown at his foot patrol unit at the entrance to the El Aroub refugee camp yesterday morning.

The IDF Spokesman said the officer was transferred to a hospital for treatment while IDF troops searched the area.

Military sources said there has been a slight rise in the number of firebombs and stone-throwing incidents in Judea and Samaria since the beginning of the year, compared to a similar period in 1998.

Meantime, Judea and Samaria police spokesman Rafi Yafeh said police yesterday questioned 45-year-old Arkady Lishansky from his hospital bed regarding Saturday night's shooting attack.

Lishansky, a security guard, was shot and seriously injured by two Palestinians as he was guarding heavy vehicles used in the construction of a new portion of the Trans-Samaria Highway between Elkana and Ariel.

Yafeh said Lishansky told police he was sitting in the company car when two Palestinians approached him and attempted to snatch his weapon. The two, he said, shot him and fled with the weapon.

Yafeh said findings at the site support Lishansky's statements and strengthen the theory that the attack was carried out by terrorists.

Yafeh said police are still checking the possibility of criminal motives but said the evidence collected so far supports nationalistic motives. The two Palestinians, he said, appear to be from one of the nearby villages.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem police have made no progress into the two terrorist stabbings that took place in the capital over the weekend. Aharon Lefkowitz, 49, of Mea She'arim was stabbed while walking near the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem's Old City on Friday afternoon, and 18-year-old IDF soldier Menahem Frantzberger was stabbed in the shoulder outside Jerusalem's Malha Mall on Saturday night.

'Statehood issue not decisive in elections'

By BEN LYNFIELD

A Palestinian analyst yesterday questioned the prevalent assumption of policy-makers and journalists that a declaration of Palestinian independence on May 4 will necessarily boost the Likud – and that a delay will help Labor – in the May 17 elections.

"It is true that a declaration of statehood could help [Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu frighten the Israeli public into supporting a tough government like his," said Ghassan Khatib, director of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center. "But there might be a counter effect, because Yasser Arafat has made his intentions [for May 4] public. When Arafat changes his mind under pressure, Netanyahu can tell the public that he changed his mind because of me, and that I am the right opponent for the Palestinians."

Khatib was speaking at a panel discussion on the link between the elections and Palestinian statehood organized by the Jerusalem Link, an organization which brings together Palestinian and Israeli women peace activists. He was joined by Hadash MK Tamar Gozansky, Meretz MK Naomi Chazan, Palestinian legislator Hanan Ashrawi, and former Meretz leader Shulamit Aloni.

Khatib predicted the election would hinge more on local issues than what is or is not declared by Arafat. "We have recently been exaggerating a lot the link between the establishment of the state and the Israeli elections," he said.

Fearing a boost for the Likud, the US, Europe, Egypt, Jordan, and the Labor Party have all reportedly pressed Arafat to refrain from declaring a state on May 4, the day that the five-year interim self-rule arrangements expire.

Partly in response to the pressure, Arafat appears to be exploring other options. He is due to discuss the matter with US President Bill Clinton when the two meet on March 23.

Chazan pointed out that Palestinian statehood has not been an issue in the campaign, a symptom of a larger avoidance of substance by the candidates, she said.

"So far this campaign has nothing to do with the issues. It is non-substantive, it is about labels, it is about epithets, about harangues, it is nasty, it is personal, and it has nothing to do with anything serious," she said.

"If we can get succeed in getting issues on the table, we may discuss a Palestinian state. But right now, those who are getting attention are the ones clever enough to call each other the nastiest names possible."

Ashrawi voiced concern that politicians would veer rightward to compete with Likud. "This runs the risk of tainting the program of the peace camp and of [its] becoming apologetic about peace." The campaign lacks "a bold agenda for peace that will capture the imagination of the Israeli people."

Aloni advised the Palestinians not to make the declaration of statehood while the current government is in power because it would trigger annexation of parts of the West Bank. "I agree that you have the fundamental right to decide, but you must take into account the situation," she said. "The majority of Israeli leaders and groups within this government will start annexation and will send groups to take more land. Your people will not be quiet [but] we know how to sell to the world that we are always victims and never victimizers."

IDF: We've greatly improved safety measures

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Since the Tze'elim 2 tragedy, the IDF has made great strides in improving safety, OC Ground Forces Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ivry-Sukenik said yesterday.

Sukenik said that he has introduced a mandatory safety test in every field course in the Ground Forces Command. But he admitted that since weapon systems are constantly being updated, safety regulations sometimes lag behind.

"Regulations cannot cover all the items and scenarios you find in the field. New weapons are being introduced. And every time we discover something new, we provide an answer in the shortest amount of time possible," he said.

He said that the goal this year is to improve documentation and quickly implement lessons on all matters of safety.

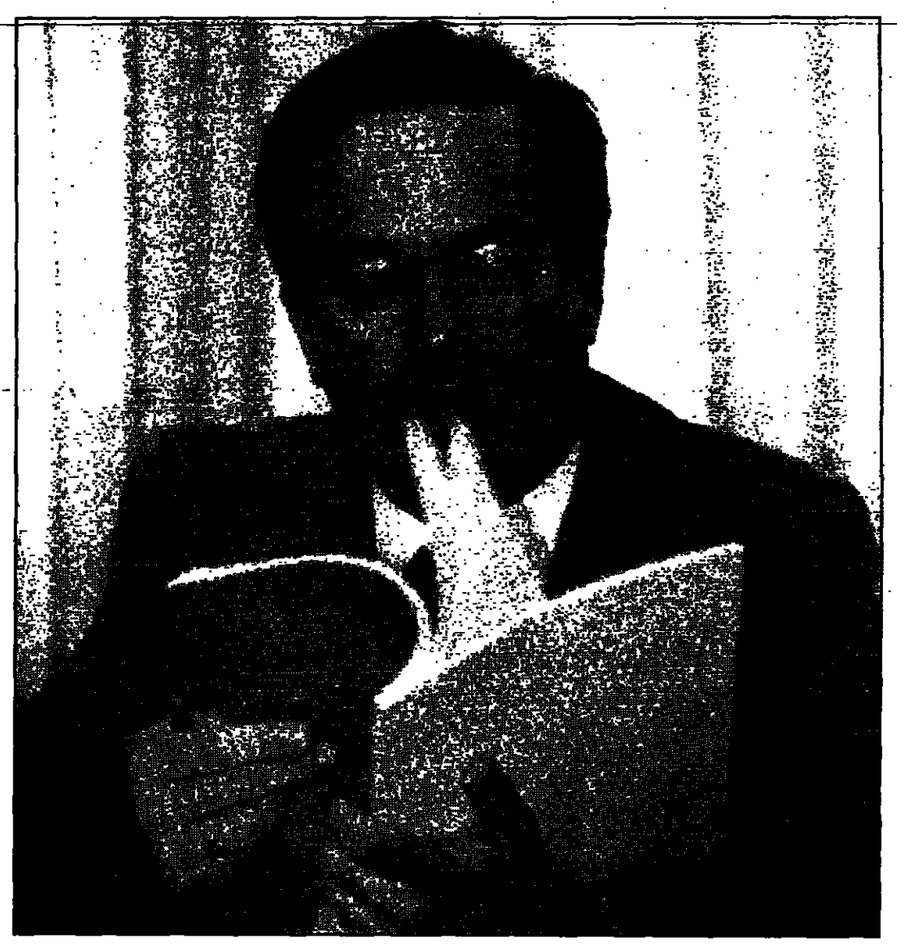
"In 1998, there was a reduction in accidents. We started the year with a number of incidents which certainly set off some red lights. We plan to reduce the number of accidents this year."

Sukenik spoke during a visit to the IDF's Field Unit Training Center at Tze'elim. The center is the state-of-the-art National Training Center (NTC) and recreates a realistic modern battlefield where units fight each other using lasers instead of bullets.

Brig.-Gen. Yiftah, commander of the training base, said the NTC is a "true revolution" in training ground forces.

The new training center will provide both regular and reserve infantry, armor, and engineering units with force-on-force training. In an effort to keep costs down, the IDF has replaced tanks with fiberglass mock-ups mounted on wheeled vehicles. Both soldiers and vehicles are equipped with monitors which register hits, which are marked by audio notification. Vehicles emit smoke and flashing lights when hit. The NIS 330 million center monitors forces in the field and includes a control center and a modern debriefing room. Senior commanders expect the range to eventually allow up to brigade level exercises by summer.

Most of those using the training will be reservists, but the IDF hopes to bring the entire ground force through the training center over the next few years.



Knesset State Control Committee chairman Yossi Katz leafs through the Tze'elim 2 report yesterday.
(Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)

Teachers weigh strike for higher wages

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Histadrut Teachers Union officials are due to meet today to discuss possible sanctions, including a strike, to be taken in the near future, to press the teachers' wage demands in their ongoing negotiations with the Treasury.

Secondary School Teachers Association officials met last night to discuss what sanctions they would take after talks with the Treasury broke down on Monday.

Meanwhile, representatives of dozens of institutions in the Agricultural Education Authority yesterday warned they would shut down their schools starting tomorrow if the Treasury does not rescind its decision to do away with the authority. The strike would affect some 80,000 youngsters at boarding schools around the country.

The increased threats followed Secondary School Teachers Association chairman Ran Erez's walking out of negotiations Monday shortly after the talks began, after learning that Treasury officials had not brought with them data they had pledged to bring at the previous meeting.

"They repeatedly promise us they will put their proposals in writing, and every time show up empty-handed," Erez said. "The Treasury wants to drag talks out until the end of classes, so that we again end up without a deal on September 1. This time we will not be a part of these deplorable tactics."

Histadrut Teachers Union Secretary-General Avraham Ben-Shabbat added that the Treasury wants to drag the talks out until September 1 "to make the teachers look like the public enemy."

A Treasury spokesman said in response that Erez had planned his early exit from the talks in advance, had not waited to hear the Treasury officials' response to his demands, and that he was not conducting negotiations in good faith.

The government, the spokesman said, intends to maintain the teachers' real wages, adding that the Treasury rejects attempts to present excessive demands in the guise of an emergency campaign to save the nation's education system. The Treasury, he said, was prepared to continue to meet with the Histadrut Teachers Union officials.

Regarding the Agricultural Education Authority, representatives of the schools affected met yesterday and said the Treasury's decision at the end of February to do away with the authority would force the closure of many schools, sending many poor pupils or immigrants who study there into the streets.

CENTER

Continued from Page 1

Milo said the party platform is being "fine tuned," and that a draft platform is already available. He promised that the main party principles would be presented at the launch this evening. "We are a pluralistic party looking for a way to voice ourselves... and this takes time," said Milo.

In his speech at Blich, Mordechai urged pupils to "remember that we are one nation with one future and our strength is in unity."

Mordechai defended his willingness to meet and speak with anyone, no matter what his or her political opinions may be.

He asked the pupils why "I can talk to Palestinian leaders, to [Palestinian Preventive Security chief] Jibril Rajoub... and can't speak to all sectors of Israeli society," when they asked him to comment on religious freedom and explain why he met with Shas spiritual leader Rabbi Ovadia Yosef.

He also told the pupils that "education must stand next to security on the ladder of priorities... everyone should be able to receive a higher education."

Not all the pupils were satisfied with Mordechai's address. "He speaks well, but he didn't answer the questions," Maya Finkelman said.

"He doesn't have an agenda," her friend Netta Levy said. "It's great to say, 'I want peace,' etc. but he doesn't have any concrete proposals."

Though Mordechai made very definitive comments on Lebanon such as, "I know there's no way to find a solution in Lebanon without renewing the dialogue with Syria," his remarks on other topics were much more general.

Mordechai was part two of a political double feature for the pupils at Blich, which takes school elections to a higher-than-usual level by having leaders of most of the parties speak and answer pupils' questions before they vote. Earlier in the day, Meretz Party leader Yossi Sarid spoke to eleventh and twelfth graders.

Though she supports the Likud, eleventh-grader Neli Tagar said she enjoyed hearing both politicians speak. Sarid, she said, is an elegant speaker who used beautiful Hebrew, while Mordechai spoke to the pupils on their level.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Rotary Club will take place today at 6:15 p.m. at the King David Hotel, for a Gala 70th Anniversary Dinner.

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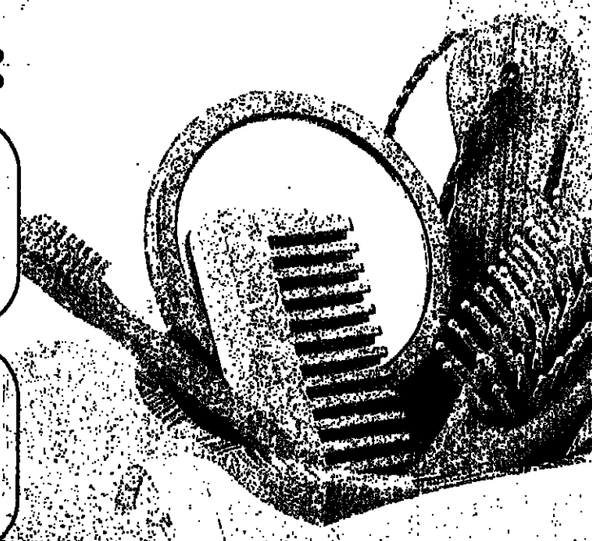
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'State to issue tie decisive election

up

Samar

ELECTIONS

notebook

Livnat discusses Likud attack strategy

The Likud Party will "not hit candidates from other parties below the belt" in its election campaign, but will respond to any attacks against it, Communications Minister Limor Livnat said yesterday.

Livnat, who supervises the Likud's election broadcasts and media, said the party's election campaign is to be revealed next week.

The campaign is expected to refrain from attacking Center Party leader Yitzhak Mordechai, to allow for a possibility of a coalition with Mordechai in a future government.

Moreover, the Likud wants to avoid alienating party sympathizers who support Mordechai as candidate for prime minister. Many of these voters are expected to support Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu if the second election round is between him and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak. The Likud is, however, expected to continue its attack on Gesher Party leader David Levy for joining Barak's One Israel coalition. The Likud position has been that this move was an election gimmick by Barak, and that Barak has no principles.

The Labor Party has already warned it intends to launch a personal campaign against Netanyahu.

Livnat, who in the past has herself strongly criticized Netanyahu, said in an Israel Radio interview yesterday: "My criticism of the prime minister is dwarfed by my criticism of Ehud Barak and Labor. And if Barak's own colleagues have said certain things about him, we will not avoid presenting this to the public."

Earlier this week, Likud spokeswoman Ronit Eckstein resigned after three years and has been replaced by Livnat's spokeswoman, Ayala Bar. Eckstein is expected to remain the Knesset faction's spokeswoman after the elections. *Liat Collins*

Likud naysayers appeal to district court

Five Likud candidates who feel they have been kept unfairly low on the party's list as a result of a misinterpretation of the placement procedure have appealed to the Tel Aviv District Court.

The five – former MKs Yossi Ahimeir, Esther Salmovitz, David Mena, and Michael Ratzon, and newcomer Avi Ben-Avraham – said that candidates running for reserved slots who won far fewer votes than they in the central committee elections were moved up the list when other positions were canceled. They argued these candidates should have been kept in their originally reserved places. Their appeal in the Likud's own tribunal has already been rejected. *Liat Collins*

NRP holding out on names of civil servant voters

Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander has asked Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to make the National Religious Party submit the names of civil servants who voted in their internal elections. The law prohibits civil servants from voting in primary elections, and a source at the commission said yesterday they have reason to believe this rule was broken by the NRP.

Likud, Meretz, and Yisrael Ba'aliya, which were also asked to submit such lists, have all done so, said Arieh Greenblatt, a spokesman for the commission. The NRP maintains the commission is breaking the law by demanding the lists, since it is a violation of privacy, a party spokesman said yesterday. He said the position is based on the opinion of the party's legal adviser.

He said the party is awaiting Rubinstein's ruling and blamed the commission for what it called "bad-mouthing" the NRP in the media. *Dunna Harman and Nina Gilbert*

NRP woman candidate asked to cover her hair

Gila Finkelstein, the woman elected to the NRP's eighth slot, said yesterday "it will be [her] decision" whether or not to cover her hair. She said she had only learned via the media that former chief rabbi Avraham Shapira wants her to cover her hair for religious reasons, and therefore wants to meet him in person to discuss the matter. Finkelstein said that since Shapira's comment she has come under pressure both by NRP women who do and do not cover their hair.

"People who voted for me say they did so because I didn't cover my hair and they want me to stay the way I am," she said. However, she said she always covers her hair from the moment Shabbat begins. She said the issue is something she has always considered, noting that her daughter covers her hair.

"I respect Rabbi Shapira and want to hear what he says," she said. "I would consider covering my hair if asked, but it's a personal decision."

Finkelstein unexpectedly beat the other three women candidates who competed for a slot reserved for an NRP woman. All the other women, two of them identified with the more nationalist wing of the party, cover their hair. *Nina Gilbert*

Deri visits kabbalist Kadourie for blessing before trial verdict

By LIAT COLLINS and BATSHEVA TSUR

Exactly one week before the Jerusalem District Court is to hand down its verdict in his trial, Shas Party leader Aryeh Deri met yesterday with kabbalist Rabbi Yitzhak Kadourie and received a blessing.

Kadourie's blessing was that the judges in Deri's trial would be granted wisdom and for "all false charges to be rescinded." Kadourie's grandson, Yossi Kadourie, who also attended the audience, made it clear he no longer intends running in a separate party against Shas.

Deri refused to speak to reporters after he left the 30-minute meeting at Kadourie's yeshiva in Jerusalem's Bukharan Quarter. Apparently he is trying to tone down in advance any public response elicited by the verdict.

However, Kadourie said the judges should be "fearful." This apparently is not meant to refer to the response of Shas supporters, but more in the spiritual sense.

Speaking at a swearing-in ceremony for 10 new judges at Beit Hanassi yesterday, President Ezer Weizman called on rabbis to use their influence to prevent disturbances when the verdict is handed down.

"My feeling is that it will pass peacefully... and I hope I'm not wrong," Weizman said. "The public showed a certain amount of maturity" in the two demonstrations for and against the judicial system two weeks ago, he said, adding: "I call on the rabbis to use their influence to ensure that things will pass peacefully next week."

Weizman decried the fact that judges must have personal bodyguards. "This is an indication that something is wrong with our society and it is a great shame," he said.

Supreme Court President Aharon Barak told the gathering that "political attacks are on the increase. Some of these are directed towards the courts." He said that "the judges are outside the political system... Everyone is equal in our eyes: Right and Left, Jew and Arab, man and woman, observant and secular, haredi and agnostic."

Turning to the attacks on the courts, Barak said that those who claim judges are biased for or against a certain sector "do not grasp the essence of the judicial process in a democratic society." The judges do not participate in "negotiating or political bartering" when it comes to interpreting the spirit of the law, he stressed.

As for the division of authority between state and religion, it is the practice in Israel for the law to govern relations between citizens and their fellow men, or between the citizen and the state, he noted. But, he continued in response to attacks by haredi circles, "the law refrains from governing the relations between man and his Creator."

Earlier in the week, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said he believes Deri will accept the verdict no matter what it is and will act within the framework of the law. "And I expect and believe that all his supporters will act in a similar fashion," Netanyahu said.

Netanyahu later appeared last night with Deri and Shas spiritual leader Rabbi Ovadia Yosef at a Shas convention in Jerusalem.



In his yeshiva in Jerusalem's Bukharan Quarter, kabbalist Rabbi Yitzhak Kadourie yesterday blesses Shas Party leader Aryeh Deri for a successful outcome to his trial on corruption charges. (Flash 90)

Herut, Moledet, Tekuma break off unity talks

By NINA GILBERT

Unity talks among the nationalist parties were suspended yesterday, partly due to exhaustion, but mostly regarding an apparent dispute over whether Herut leader Ze'ev (Benny) Begin should withdraw his candidacy for prime minister.

The sides held an overnight session that ended at 8 a.m., which they had hoped would result in closing a deal.

A meeting scheduled for yesterday afternoon was canceled. Tsomet is still being excluded from the talks, being conducted among Herut, Moledet, and Tekuma.

A Herut source said the party was no longer optimistic that a deal is close.

He said the talks broke down both on ideological issues and over the formulation of the list, and Herut is "very disappointed that certain elements in the partnership are backtracking on previous agreements."

Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi is apparently willing to give up his demand for the No. 1 slot in exchange for Begin withdrawing his candidacy.

However, a spokeswoman for Moledet said that the remaining differences are minor, and the issue of Begin's candidacy could be resolved in a vote later by the members of the list.

The Herut source also said that unlike other parties in the unity formula, it does not have a problem running in the elections on its own.

At the same time, he said, the people want unity and it will give the group more power.

Begin's position is that his candidacy is a legitimate political tool.

The aim is apparently to use the move to elicit possible concessions from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on his peace process policy.

The Meretz of the Right

ANALYSIS

By SARAH HONIG

Ze'ev (Benny) Begin, Rehavam Ze'evi, and Hanan Porat are perhaps best compared to Shulamit Aloni, Amnon Rubinstein, and Yair Tzaban – though none of the above would relish the analogy. Yet both trios sought to unify small splinters on the more ideologically-devout fringes of both large parties – Meretz on Labor's left and the emerging front on the Likud's right.

Both trios were able to forge ahead after quite similar ideological adjustments. In both cases, the basic agreement was to ignore the differences – not at all an easy task for ideological purists.

Thus the new rightist platform, when it finally solidifies, will not address itself to Begin's autonomy notions nor to Ze'evi's transfer proposals. Likewise, Meretz papered over the differences between Mapam's Marxist doctrines and Shinui's free-enterprise philosophy.

Yet the expected birth of Meretz's counterpart on the Right is not accompanied by anything like the fanfare accorded Meretz when it came into the world. Perhaps it is the media's built-in bias which keeps it from focusing on the goings-on to the right of the Likud.

While it continues to follow every nuance of every internal squabble in Meretz, the media tends to dismiss the Eretz Yisrael diehards as a pitiful congregation of eccentrics, unworthy of serious attention. Yet overlooking them in this campaign is a bad blunder. The groupings involved may yet prove to be among the wild cards of the season.

For starters, it would do us all well to recall that they are the ones who brought down the government last winter. Some of them no doubt rue their hotheadedness and some would give anything to be able to restore the status quo ante.

But hindsight contrition notwithstanding, it's a safe bet that when the 15th Knesset is sworn in, they will head open-eyed and resolute to the opposition. This is one party with no other prospects or ambitions than to make the life of the next government, regardless of whose it is, difficult in the extreme.

This is where the new entity becomes highly significant. It would constitute a Knesset component which can in no way figure in any side's coalition calculations. Nor is it likely to exhibit any pragmatic lapses, especially as the alliance's different components can be counted upon to watch each other like the super-hawks they are.

If once Ze'evi was willing to contemplate joining Binyamin Netanyahu's coalition, Begin will make sure that he will not stray from the ideological straight and narrow ever again. If Porat was once part of the coalition, his new partners will make sure that this is not repeated as long as they are together.

Even the polls do not pooh-pooh this new venture. The merger may infuse the party's potential supporters with fighting spirit and renewed confidence, thereby creating a larger bloc than the sum total of its parts.

Rightists who may have feared squandering their votes on small splinters, which might not make it into the Knesset, will now feel safe to cast their ballots for a single ticket.

This could introduce a sizable rightist faction into the Knesset, which, though elected by rightist voters, would be immune to persuasion by the rest of the Right and reluctant to cooperate with it on any but its own uncompromising terms. At most, the new alliance would be part of a rightist parliamentary blocking majority. It could enormously complicate Netanyahu's life, should he be in a position to put another coalition together.

Moreover, at least part of the support which the new list would garner would be at the expense of parties with which Netanyahu would be able to deal – most especially the NRP. It, in fact, is likely to be the rightist bloc's most outstanding victim.

Eventually this would be to Netanyahu's great detriment, because Knesset mandates would be removed from a group he can do business with and transferred to one with which he cannot. This comes on top of the possible injury to the Likud itself, which might lose the votes of Revisionist true-blues, who are principally those who flocked to Begin's cause.

Not all in the new party will support Begin's prime ministerial bid and many others will switch their allegiance to Netanyahu in the runoff. Porat already said as much, and Ze'evi has been trying his damnedest in recent days to get Begin to quit the race already.

The fear on the Right is that voters whose candidate failed in round one will be less likely to show up and vote for another in the second round, merely because he is the lesser of two evils. Thus Begin's hopeless candidacy in the first round could injure the Right's chances in the second.

Nevertheless, Netanyahu can derive some benefit by using Begin as his foil. In comparison, Netanyahu appears the realistic moderate. This could help him deflect Ehud Barak's charges that he is an extremist – not that we can suspect this was ever the goal that made Begin run.

Yisrael Ba'aliya steps up campaign to win Ethiopian votes

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Recalling his own experiences distributing cookies and water to Ethiopian immigrants flying from Addis Ababa to Israel during Operation Solomon, Yisrael Ba'aliya leader Natan Sharansky last night told hundreds of Ethiopian immigrants in Rishon Lezion that Russian and Ethiopian immigrants share common problems, and that his party is committed to solving them.

Representatives from over 30 Ethiopian communities expressed their support at the gathering for what they once viewed as a "Russians only" party.

The event was a continuation of the party's campaign to gain the support of the Ethiopians, which was bolstered by MK Adisu Messele's recent decision to leave the Labor Party, after he failed to gain a realistic place on its list. He is due to make up his mind about his political future by the end of the week and said yesterday he is negotiating "with several parties."

Sharansky recalled how as a journalist at the time of Operation Solomon, he requested special permission from his newspaper to travel to Ethiopia to cover the story. He recalled the newcomers' emotional strength on the flight and his thoughts about what a credit they would be to Israel.

"It's easy to love a Jew on his way to Israel, but we have to teach people how to love immigrants after they're already here, and respect their traditions and customs" Sharansky told them. He said both Russian and Ethiopian immigrants had to struggle against society's paternalistic approach toward them, and convince the authorities to let them make their own decisions regarding schools and other matters related to their futures.

Yisrael Ba'aliya's efforts to gain wider Ethiopian support was also boosted by the presence last night of leaders of the Hatikva Party, formed in January by a group of Ethiopian immigrants, who are reportedly now negotiating to join Yisrael Ba'aliya. Final details of a possible agreement are expected to be worked out this week.

According to Shlomo Mula, No. 8 on the Yisrael Ba'aliya list, the anger felt by Ethiopian immigrants regarding Messele's treatment by Labor "created a revolution in the way people think. There's no doubt that people are now more interested than ever in supporting our people. Also, Yisrael Ba'aliya is a party that is right of center, which allows people to express their ideological beliefs as well."

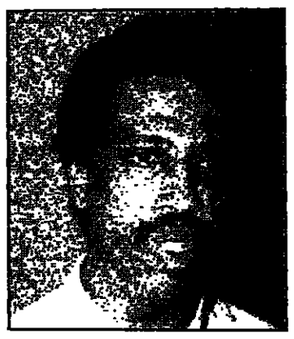
The vast majority of Ethiopian immigrants voted for the Likud in the last election, reflecting traditional support for the party which stems from loyalty to Menahem Begin, who decided on the massive airlift of Ethiopians to Israel, a source who works with the community said.

Despite significant levels of enmity between Ethiopian and Russian immigrants over the years, Yisrael Ba'aliya spokesman David Schechter said yesterday he believes the party can bridge the gap and serve both communities. He noted that two Ethiopians finished in the top 10 on the party list, although no seats were set aside for them.

Avi Bitau, No. 10 on the list, said the aim is "to finally unite the community politically and do something on its behalf. After what happened in Labor, and even in the Likud, the community is saying: 'We will vote for whomever we want for prime minister, but when it comes to the Knesset, we will vote for a party that has representatives from the community.'"



Natan Sharansky (Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)



Adisu Messele (Brian Hendler)

ON THE RECORD

I don't agree with the leadership style, and the path of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, but I will not rule out the possibility of talking with him – Center Party leader **Yitzhak Mordechai**.

My criticism of the prime minister is dwarfed by my criticism of Ehud Barak and Labor – Communications Minister **Limor Livnat**.

The Lord will instill fear into the judges – Rabbi **Yitzhak Kadourie** on the Aryeh Deri trial.

It's easy to love a Jew on his way to Israel, but we have to teach people how to love immigrants after they're already here – Yisrael Ba'aliya leader **Natan Sharansky**.

People who voted for me say they did so because I didn't cover my hair and they want me to stay the way I am – **Gila Finkelstein**, No. 8 on the National Religious Party list.

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World Union for Progressive Judaism convention opens today

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Following two years of the biggest advances made by its organization in Israeli society, the World Union for Progressive (Reform) Judaism opens its 29th biannual convention today with the leaders of 1,200 communities around the world in attendance.

"We're talking about a new era in the Reform movement," said Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the World Union. "Israel needs liberal Judaism for its sake, to reflect the plurality of Jewish life around the world. If all Jews don't feel at home in Israel, then Israel won't be the home for all Jews. So it's Israel that needs the liberal movements. That's what we've now demonstrated."

Among the highlights of the convention will be the rabbinic ordination of two Israeli women; the presentation to Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky of the first copy of the Reform prayer book translated into Russian; and ground-breaking ceremonies for three Reform centers in Modi'in, Ra'anana, and Mevasseret Zion.

The prayer book includes transliteration in Russian alongside the Hebrew text, to allow for pubic reading in Hebrew. Community leaders from the former Soviet Union will be participating in the convention.

Convention participants will discuss the state of Judaism in Israel, and will hear from writer Amos Oz about the impact of religious forces on Israeli society.

Hirsch, who himself will be honored with a farewell tribute as he ends his 25 years of service as executive director, quoted from the writer A.B. Yehoshua, who said last month at the time of the haredi protest and counterdemonstrations, that "'we need the Reform and Conservative movement to defend ourselves.' Without rights for the non-Orthodox movements in Israel, the basic institutions of Israeli democracy are threatened," Hirsch said.

Leaders of the Reform movement, meanwhile, will deliver thousands of postcards from Jews throughout the United States to Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon at 1 p.m. today, expressing their anger at the renewed attempts by the Knesset to define "who is a Jew."

"The State of Israel must not deny the legitimacy of millions of the world's Jews," wrote thousands of American Jews. "The nations of the world have treated Jews as strangers for centuries. Do not allow the State of Israel, spiritual and physical homeland for all Jews, to pass laws that treat Jews as outsiders." The postcards, addressed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Tichon, will be delivered by Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, executive director of ARZA/World Union, North America; Philip Meltzer, president of ARZA/World Union; Jerry Tanenbaum, chairman of ARZA/World Union; and Rabbi Uri Regev, executive director of the Israel Religious Action Center.



100,000 percent counterfeit

Police sift through some $100,000 in counterfeit $100 bills they seized yesterday from suspected con men Ovadia Yitzhak and Chen Hazaki. The two, who were arrested at the Latrun junction after police acted on a tip-off, deny knowing the money was counterfeit and said they had met over a business deal involving the sale of jeans. Police said the men are known to them from other fraud cases. They were remanded for seven days by Jerusalem's Magistrate's Court. (Text: Itim; photo: Isaac Harari)

A-G orders Jerusalem Religious Council to meet tonight

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

The Religious Affairs Ministry has ordered the Jerusalem Religious Council to convene today at 5 p.m., under the instruction of Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein.

The order followed protests lodged with Rubinstein by the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center.

It is unclear whether the Orthodox members of the council will boycott the meeting, as they have the last three attempts to convene the body.

Rabbi Uri Regev, executive director of the IRAC, said that after it complained to Rubinstein that Religious Affairs Minister Eli Suissa wasn't fulfilling his mandate under the law, he notified it that he followed up on the requests on two counts.

One was reiterating to Suissa that he has to convene the religious council when the councils themselves fail to do so.

The second was over the issue of salaries paid to the chairman and vice-chairman of the council, which Regev argued should be denied them as long as the councils fail to convene.

"Indeed, the attorney-general has informed us that he has turned to the minister of religious affairs on this as well, and asked him to verify that functionaries in the different religious councils that refuse to convene are not drawing a salary."

Should the Jerusalem council fail to meet again today, Suissa has the option of either appointing a representative to carry on it functions, or he can appoint an investigative committee, of which a representative of the Attorney-General's Office is a member. Based on the recommendations of that committee, Suissa can then appoint a committee to replace the religious council.

"I can tell you that if he moves in the direction of an appointed council, we will be there waiting to make sure that we are on that council," said Regev.

ANALYSIS

Court declines to lift ban on Sheves indictment

By DAN IZENBERG

The Supreme Court yesterday turned down journalist Yoav Yitzhak's appeal that the secret sections of the state's indictment against Shimon Sheves on bribery charges be disclosed.

However, Justices Ya'acov Kedmi, Ya'acov Terkel, and Hanoch Ariel, left the way open for Yitzhak to submit a new appeal to the Jerusalem District Court asking it to lift the ban on "certain details" of the indictment.

Yitzhak told *The Jerusalem Post* last night he had already submitted his appeal and the court would hear it in two weeks.

The indictment against Sheves was submitted on August 11. Sheves, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office under Yitzhak Rabin, was charged with bribery, fraud, and other crimes.

According to the indictment, he used his position to advance the personal interests of his friends in exchange for benefits.

According to one charge, businessman Moshe Stern gave Sheves large sums of money in exchange for the promotion of his business interests.

Sheves is also accused of using his position as the official responsible for streamlining building procedures to advance the interests of his friend Gil Shuldenfrei, owner of the Ligat construction company.

He is suspected of having received NIS 400,000 in bribes and having tried to obtain another $5 million in another affair.

At the time of the indictment, the Jerusalem District Court granted the State Attorney Office's request for a ban on publication on many of the details on the grounds that disclosure could harm the national interest.

The ban applied to much of the first count and all of the second.

Yitzhak appealed the decision to the district court and was rebuffed. He then appealed to the Supreme Court.

Terkel rejected Yitzhak's arguments, but said he could submit a new appeal to the district court specifying exactly which details he wants published.

Ariel wrote that he saw nothing wrong with publishing the second count, except for a few words which should be erased to protect the national interest.

NEWS *in brief*

Petition against Galili postponed one week

The High Court of Justice's first hearing on the petition against the promotion of Brig.-Gen. Nir Galili was rescheduled yesterday for March 16. The hearing has already been postponed twice. Attorney Yaron Keidar, who represents a 22-year-old woman alleging to have been raped by Galili, asked the court to postpone yesterday's hearing in order to obtain IDF documents. Keidar told *The Jerusalem Post* he had received some of the documents requested and had responded to them, but is still waiting for others. *Dan Izenberg*

Arutz 7 trial opens

The trial of 10 heads of Arutz 7 and three related companies on charges of illegally operating a radio station opened yesterday in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. The defendants asked that the case be dismissed because the Knesset has legalized the operation of the station. They also asked that the trial be recessed until the High Court rules on the petition asking that the law legalizing the station be overturned.

Judge Yoram Noam agreed to wait for the High Court ruling, and delayed the continuation of the trial for 30 days, hoping it would be handed down by then. *Itim*

Bezeq workers to start sanctions over rate cuts

Bezeq workers will function according to a minimal Shabbat schedule starting Friday morning. The 166 (repair), 188 (overseas dialling) and 199 (marketing) services will not work and phone lines will not be installed or repaired.

The union is protesting against the government's decision last week to cut Bezeq rates by more than 8% on average next month and even more in the beginning of 2000. The union said it was not opposed to reducing phone rates, but that "this must be done while honoring agreements signed with the workers, as well as ensuring employees' rights and the financial stability of the company." *Judy Siegel*

Ministry delaying Holocaust compensation

Yaffa Golan, who administers distribution of German restitution payments to Holocaust victims, said yesterday that, due to Finance Ministry incompetence, Swiss government Holocaust payments have yet to reach their rightful recipients.

In a letter to Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit, Golan charged that some $60 million Switzerland gave Israel over one and a half years ago have been tied up by ministry red tape. The intended recipients, she said, "are not getting any younger, and some have passed away." Golan said she intends to turn to the High Court of Justice if the matter is not settled forthwith. *Itim*

Claims Conference to open Vienna office

A prominent Jewish organization working to resolve claims that Europe's financial institutions looted Jewish assets during World War II said yesterday that it will soon open an office in Vienna.

The New York City-based Claims Conference also set up an international steering committee that will be chaired by Ronald Lauder, the cosmetics heir and former US ambassador to Austria. The Vienna office, which will open on March 15, will be headed by Moshe Jahoda, an official with the Claims Conference. The office also will monitor what the Claims Conference called "extensive welfare programs" for victims of the Nazis in Europe and the former Soviet Union. *Reuters*

Netivot holds English olympiad

The basketball courts of Netivot's Neveh Noi neighborhood are hosting a different type of competition this week, serving as the site of an olympiad aimed at furthering the study of English in the town's elementary schools.

The event, sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women Research Institute for Innovation in Education, of the Hebrew University's School of Education, began yesterday and continues today. Some 300 pupils from eight schools compete in sports, singing, dancing, and other activities – all in English.

The project is run by Judy Yaron of Ra'anana, in response to parents who sought help in strengthening English studies for their children. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Beware non-kosher olive oil, says rabbinate

In a press release issued yesterday, the Chief Rabbinate announced two brands of olive oil known to bear forged kosher certificates are being sold in shops.

The statement said in a raid carried out by rabbinate investigators on 20 shops in the Mahaneh Yehuda market, 12 were found to be selling the brands, which fraudulently claim kosher supervision by "Rabbi Moshe Peretz" and "Rabbi Haim Navon."

The rabbinate also said it had previously admonished vendors not to carry the brands, and added that vendors had cooperated with the inspectors, except for one who threatened to attack them with a bottle. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Austrian bank will pay $40 million, release papers in Holocaust case

By HENRY WEINSTEIN

A large Austrian bank has agreed to pay $40 million and provide reams of documents to settle a major class-action suit that charged the bank with aiding the Nazi war machine and profiting by selling Jewish assets during World War II.

While the Monday settlement of the case, filed in New York last year, is not nearly as big as the $1.25 billion settlement Holocaust survivors reached with Swiss banks, the agreement is considered significant, according to attorneys and Jewish leaders, because the documents will give them considerable ammunition in major cases pending against German banks.

Creditanstalt, and its parent company Bank Austria, were sued in the same cases as two leading German banks, Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank.

A unique aspect of the settlement is that it gives the plaintiffs the right to any claims that the Austrian bank might have against the German banks for assets that were forcibly transferred to the German banks after Germany annexed Austria in March 1938. Deutsche Bank formally took control of Creditanstalt after the annexation.

"The significance of the settlement is not in the amount being paid, but in the documents being produced and the claims being assigned," said attorney Robert A. Swift of Philadelphia, one of the lead lawyers for the plaintiffs.

"This settlement will lead to far larger compensation for Holocaust survivors."

Charles Moerdler, a New York attorney who was the lead lawyer for the Austrian banks, declined to return calls seeking comment. The settlement specifically provides that the Austrian banks admit no liability by signing the settlement.

The 37-page settlement resolves three cases filed in the past year against Creditanstalt and Bank Austria.

The suits alleged that the bank aggressively participated in a scheme to profit from the slave labor inflicted by the Nazi regime and its allies.

The plaintiffs also asserted that the bank obtained, concealed, and profited from assets looted or "Aryanized" by the Nazi regime.

Within months after the suits were filed, Austrian officials indicated that they wanted to expeditiously resolve the cases.

The settlement provides that the Austrian banks will provide $30 million for a humanitarian fund, some of which will go to survivors, and another $10 million for an administrative fund and interim claim fund. (Los Angeles Times)

MK Goldman warns of unrest if Umm el-Fahm issue not resolved

By LIAT COLLINS

Micha Goldman (Labor), chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee, yesterday warned that rioting could break out in Umm el-Fahm on Land Day, March 30, if no solution is found to the dispute between local residents and the Defense Ministry over land the ministry wants to use as a training area.

In September, serious riots broke out in the town over the land issue. Goldman was active in bringing about a temporary "cease-fire" after promising that the Prime Minister's Office and the Defense Ministry would find a solution by December 31, 1998. That period has been extended twice.

Yesterday, the committee was scheduled to discuss the matter in a special session but, according to Goldman, deputy committee chairman David Tal (Shas) gave into pressure from the Prime Minister's Office to cancel the meeting.

Motti Zaken, the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, denied that the office had been involved in the committee's cancellation.

"I am afraid that if a permanent solution to the dispute is not found by Land Day on March 30, it could become the focus for conflict and escalation which could even threaten lives and cause bloodshed," Goldman said.

A special ministerial team, headed by Zaken, has been trying to reach a compromise with the residents. He said the Arab representatives also want to avoid a repeat of the riots, and an understanding and consensus had been reached.

Zaken said the understanding is that the use of the firing range will only be used with the maximum consideration of the residents, and the residents will be able to use the land two days a week, as well as on Jewish holidays.

He also said the panel had clarified that the landowners' rights to the land would be preserved and that the land is not intended to be used for building a Jewish town, as the residents apparently feared.

Those residents whose lands are in the training area have also been offered alternative land or the possibility of leasing alternative land, he said. The IDF will consider giving up the training area if circumstances allow, Zaken said.

He said he believes the outstanding problems will be resolved by Land Day.

Study: Early testing reduces colon cancer mortality by almost two-thirds

By JUDY SIEGEL

Routine testing for occult blood in the stool – a simple lab test with a sample sent by mail – cut deaths from colon cancer among Upper Galilee residents by 63 percent in 11 years.

The Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus yesterday announced the impressive results of the study among 2,538 northern kibbutzniks, who underwent the test annually for three years. Their results were compared with those of 1,010 kibbutz residents who refused to undergo the test and 1,376 people in a control group who were not offered screening.

Lifestyle questionnaires were filled out to ensure that each of the groups was a representative sample.

Anyone found to have occult blood in the stool was sent for an invasive colonoscopy to look for pre-cancerous polyps: if any were identified, they were removed on the spot and cancer was prevented. The patients in the test group were observed for eight years after their last lab test.

Every year, 1,000 new cases of colon cancer are diagnosed and 500 people die of the disease. The earlier the tumor is discovered, the higher the chances of a cure.

The kibbutzniks who refused to take part were less health minded – more of them were smokers (28%) than in the test group (16%).

Prof. Yaron Niv, head of the hospital's gastroenterology institute and initiator of the study, said that "there's no doubt occult blood tests of the stools have a protective effect against colon cancer long after they're performed. We managed to reduce the mortality rate from this dreadful disease by nearly two-thirds."

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History and hurricanes

Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

In the midst of the banana trade war with Europe, President Bill Clinton this week is touring the banana republics.

The timing is coincidental – his trip was scheduled for last month, but was put off because of the Senate impeachment trial.

Nonetheless, associations are inevitable, given the long and mostly nasty history of both the American banana barons and of US covert mischief-makers in support of vile Central American dictators and militarist killers.

Not that Clinton will take much heat for the sins of the past. As a liberal and empathetic leader, he is popular in the region. The concerns today are not of the damage done by predatory CIA goons and vulture capitalists, but the ruin brought by a gentleman named Mitch.

Last October, Hurricane Mitch roared across the Central American isthmus, killing more than 9,000 people, 5,000 of them in Honduras.

Many thousands more remain missing and two million people lost their homes. All across the region bridges were ripped away, ruining communications. Crops – including the staple export, bananas – were wiped out. The cost to these impoverished and debt-ridden nations climbed to a staggering $10 billion.

'Real' visit

So this time, the US president comes as a good guy, to spread hope, not to listen to historical recriminations. US aid to Central America is the largest response to a foreign natural disaster in its history and includes $600 million in debt relief for Honduras and Nicaragua and a raft of trade concessions that Clinton proposed last week to give stricken countries easier access to US markets. He also hopes the Republican-dominated Congress will soon free up a disputed $1 billion package to help rebuild the region.

Clinton's trip began Monday in Nicaragua, the one-time Cold War foe then run by the Sandinistas. It was second only to Cuba in American demonology and the heartland of the 1980s Iran-Contra scandal. Air Force One landed on a warm and blustery morning at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport, and Clinton became the first American president to visit in 31 years. But his is the first ever "real" visit. Lyndon B. Johnson stopped at Managua airport for two hours in 1968. Before him, Calvin Coolidge docked at Puerto Cortinto in 1928, but did not disembark from his boat.

After a colorful welcome, Clinton flew directly to Posoltega, 120 km. northwest of Managua, which suffered the worst natural disaster in recent Central American history. Days of nonstop torrential rain brought by Mitch filled the crater of La Casita volcano.

In a tragedy reminiscent of Pompeii, the volcano split open on October 30, and a gigantic wall of mud rolled over the little communities of Rolondo Rodriguez and El Porvenir. Survivors spoke of hearing a roar like an invading army of planes and helicopters before the mud struck. More than 2,000 people were killed instantly and several thousand survivors were left homeless.

Robber barons

After Nicaragua, Clinton headed yesterday for El Salvador and Honduras – he was scheduled to visit 5,600 American troops at a base in Honduras. They are not there for any nefarious reasons but simply to help in the disaster recovery and have rebuilt Tegucigalpa's destroyed Juan Molina bridge.

It's a new image indeed for the Americans in Honduras, whose vital banana production was the worst hit by Mitch. Back in the bad old days, American robber barons like the notorious Sam Zemurray, a Moldavian Jewish immigrant, made fortunes from bananas in Honduras by first getting into the business of keeping the country in permanent revolution.

With his murderous gun-toting mercenary sidekick from Mississippi, Lee Christmas, Zemurray and the Honduran Manuel Bonilla fomented a revolution in 1911. Zemurray built his empire, which became the "respectable" United Fruit conglomerate, on the back of the bloodshed and Bonilla's success.

Let's say yes

United Fruit in turn played a disgraceful role (with the CIA) in the Guatemalan coup of 1954. It was in the Zemurray tradition of gaining commercial control in Central America by bribery, murder, and subversion. By the 1950s, United Fruit was the greatest ever agro empire, known as the Octopus. In 1962, it became United Brands.

Clinton will spend today in El Salvador, which voted this weekend in its second presidential election since the end of its bloody 13-year-long civil war six years ago. (Francisco Flores, 39, a democratic right winger, won on the first round against seven other candidates.) It is here Clinton is expected to address, in a speech, the long and murky history of US meddling in Central America.

He will end his visit in Guatemala, which has the most bloody recent legacy of such meddling, and will attend a summit of regional leaders in Antigua before leaving tomorrow night.

Right up to the 1980s, US policies in support of grubby military elites in Central America continued the tradition of Zemurray and his ilk, with their pathological hatred of workers' rights, leftists, and revolutionaries who weren't firmly in their back pockets.

Does Clinton bring a new future, new thinking, new democracies to this region ravaged by history and hurricane? Let's not be cynical; let's say yes! This looks like a US foreign policy success story in the making. Now about that banana trade war with Europe...

From enemy to ally: NATO and Central Europe

By TOM COHEN

BUDAPEST – Not too long ago, electrical engineer Rezso Vass worked mostly with stolen goods.

Under orders from the Soviet Union, the Hungarian defense industry researcher studied NATO military technology, such as communications circuitry smuggled out of the West by communist bloc spies.

"They could steal the Western equipment but they couldn't hook it up to the Warsaw Pact equipment," the burly, balding Vass recalled. His goal, usually unsuccessful, was to make the NATO connection.

"We were extremely ashamed of it," he said. "It's not a nice feeling for an engineer – that he has to steal things and can't work on his own research.

"But now...," he paused, then broke into a laugh.

In the ironic evolution of Central Europe, the years of unpleasant labor make Vass and his MIKI Engineering Co. well-positioned for the reversal of regional loyalties when Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic join NATO on Friday.

They are the first former Soviet bloc members to unite with the one-time enemy. Their leaders and new allies call the shift historic for Europe's unification and for nailing the Cold War coffin shut, but it creates a dilemma for the newcomers.

NATO membership requires them to overhaul their war machines, particularly by upgrading equipment to NATO quality and compatibility. That will cost hundreds of millions of dollars for emerging economies struggling with the transformation from socialism to market systems.

At the same time, the newcomers' defense industries are suffering from the Soviet empire's collapse, which ended huge, government-financed weapons production.



Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski speaks in Warsaw last month after signing the documents that will allow Poland, formerly of the Soviet bloc, to join its new allies in NATO. (AP)

RESCUING the bloated, loss-making weapons makers is crucial to maintain the economic growth needed to pay for the NATO-required military overhaul. And the NATO connection offers the chance for partnerships with larger, wealthier Western defense contractors, exposure to new markets and methods of doing business, reciprocal investment – in a word, survival.

"There is little chance for national industries to survive if they don't join or they don't merge" with Western defense industries, said Krystian Piatkowski, director of the NATO industrial advisory group at the Polish Chamber of National Defense Manufacturers.

Czech Defense Ministry spokesman Milan Repka agreed: "The truth is it's the only way in terms of the free market."

For the West, the newcomers provide access to formerly closed markets and a foothold in a region rich with other NATO aspirants, such as Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania and the Baltic states of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia. Expansion also allows NATO to cement its influence on regional security at the expense of a badly limping Russia.

"It's really NATO taking strategic advantage of Russia's weakness," said William Hopkinson of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, who helped formulate British defense policy for former Prime Minister John Major's government.

BUT the NATO newcomers' industries are crippled from neglect of the past decade, when governments made few purchases and failed to finance research as traditional Warsaw Pact markets dried up.

While privatization has occurred in some form in the Czech Republic and Hungary, and is planned in Poland, the forecast remains dim. Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski estimates only a third of his country's 45 defense-related factories will survive.

"Not even the combined effort and strength of the three of us are an important factor in European military trade," noted Bela Takacs, head of the defense and military industry section in Hungary's Ministry of Economic Affairs. "We are a small fish. We have to be aware of that."

Poland's annual arms exports are a tiny fraction of the global trade – about $30 million worth of aviation equipment, tanks, artillery, firearms and explosives to India, Pakistan, Indochina, North Africa, Angola, Brazil and Venezuela.

The Czechs specialize in armored vehicles popular in the Middle East and aircraft, especially light fighter jets from Aero Vodochody. But the only order so far for the new, NATO-compatible L159 fighter-trainer is from the Czech government.

Hungary, which lacks the mineral wealth for heavy weapons production, specializes in advanced communications, reconnaissance and code technology.

The big money joint ventures and offset agreements come from the West, where European and American contractors are competing heavily for a stake in East Europe. In the short term, that gives the NATO newcomers some leverage.

Scott White, a Boeing official who is president of Aero Vodochody under the merged management structure, said Central Europeans ask: "If I'm going to buy your product, what can you do for me?"

All three countries have adopted or are considering legislation that requires significant offset agreements or reciprocal investment – as high as 100 percent of the value of any contracts to purchase Western wares.

Such deals would infuse money into local factories. And it would allow the Poles, Hungarians and Czechs to continue their own research instead of becoming what they call "slave labor" producing only hardware fitted with advanced Western gadgetry. (AP)

Stephanopoulos memoirs explore loyalty ethic under Clinton

By JOHN HARRIS

WASHINGTON – US President Bill Clinton is a man of vast "seductive powers" who uses his "personal magnetism" to charm the people he needs, but he is prone to sudden, behind-the-scenes tantrums that descend on aides like "an impersonal physical force, like a tornado," former White House senior adviser George Stephanopoulos recalls.

First Lady Hillary Clinton is a vulnerable woman who can at times be tender with her husband and his closest aides, but who felt angry and abandoned when scrutiny turned on her in the Whitewater affair.

In January 1994, tears in her eyes, she unleashed her wrath on Stephanopoulos at a White House staff meeting. "You never believed in us," she snapped, recalling the 1992 New Hampshire primary. "We were out there alone, and I'm feeling very lonely right now. Nobody is fighting for me.... If you don't believe in us, you should just leave."

The question of Stephanopoulos, his loyalty and his ambivalent relationship with the Clintons is rising anew this week, with the release of his book *All Too Human*.

The memoir is the latest in a succession of unvarnished and often damaging accounts about the president told by people who were once his intimates.

Beyond the story of one celebrated aide's journey from idealism to a White House "burnout" so draining he sought psychiatric help, Stephanopoulos's book highlights vividly how the presidency – and the recording of presidential history – have been transformed in the Clinton years.

A confluence of factors has left Clinton arguably the most exposed president ever to hold the office.

CLINTON is a leader who has had difficulty establishing lasting loyalties among many who worked most closely with him. And he is governing in an era when the ethic of profiting through published revelations – such as the reported $2.75 million advance to Stephanopoulos – has become routine.

No predecessor has had his policy deliberations, political strategy and emotional makeup so thoroughly disclosed and dissected while his presidency was underway.

Last week alone shows the trend starkly. The president's ex-paramour, former White House intern Monica Lewinsky, published a book and appeared on national television talking about their relationship and offering her perspective on his interior life.

Consultant Dick Morris, who earlier published a tell-all book about the 1996 campaign, held forth last week at a Washington press breakfast on his conclusions about Clinton's psychological profile. A few days earlier, former White House press secretary Michael McCurry was quoted in a magazine interview saying he knows of no one who is completely loyal to Clinton.

The latest public exposure to come at Clinton's expense is not a surprise. Stephanopoulos, once the most unflagging of Clinton's defenders, publicly signaled his disaffection with his old boss when the Lewinsky controversy erupted in early 1998.

But his book again raises questions that already echoed through this presidency: Why do so many Clinton loyalists fall out with him? Are the former associates who tell their stories being loyal to the truth or disloyal to him? And is it fair to any president to have history told as soon as it is made?

"IT'S not only unfair, it's a violation of a relationship of trust," said Richard Goodwin, a former aide to presidents John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson. "It is disloyalty to the man and the whole institution of the presidency."

Goodwin, who broke with Johnson publicly over the Vietnam War, waited 20 years before publishing his insider's memoir. He believes Clinton's personal and political style has contributed to his travails – "When you've got an administration without standards or values, it infects everyone who works there" – but says nonetheless Clinton has been betrayed.

"Who is George Stephanopoulos except another kid on the make?" he asked. "Clinton created these people, in a public sense. Who would know or care about George Stephanopoulos if not for Clinton?"

This view is common among many senior aides still toiling at the White House that Stephanopoulos left behind – and is held most deeply, advisers said, by the Clintons themselves.

"This is such a betrayal," said one veteran Clinton aide. "George was family, he was that close."

"They can't stand him," said one family friend, purporting to describe the views of both the president and Hillary Clinton toward Stephanopoulos.

Stephanopoulos addresses the issue in his book, acknowledging that his mixed feelings about Clinton may lead him to "irrational and uncharitable anger," and saying he is anguished by charges of disloyalty. But, he adds, "I didn't think Clinton had 'created' me, or that loyalty demanded defending behavior I found abhorrent."

(The Washington Post)

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Kosovo fighting rages as Holbrooke arrives for talks

By JOVANA GEC

PRISTINA (AP) – Tank-backed Yugoslav forces battled Kosovo rebels in the north and south yesterday, underscoring the tough task facing US envoy Richard Holbrooke going into new talks with Slobodan Milosevic.

Holbrooke flew to Belgrade for an expected meeting with the Yugoslav president today as the US increases pressure on him to agree to a plan aimed at ending the year-old war in the Serbian province.

American diplomats remained hopeful that the Kosovo Liberation Army is on the verge of signing the peace plan before negotiations with the two sides resume Monday outside Paris. Their reported consent to the plan, with strong reservations that have prevented them from signing so far, has encouraged the Americans and Europeans to press Milosevic harder to drop his objection to the deployment of 28,000 NATO troops in Kosovo to enforce the deal.

Holbrooke and fellow US envoy Christopher Hill are expected to drive home a hard message to Milosevic today. But there was no evidence Milosevic's forces were easing up on their offensive to seize full control of a strategic region along Kosovo's southern border with Macedonia – just across from where more than 8,000 troops have gathered in preparation for a peace-keeping mission.

Yugoslav forces firing from tanks advanced southward yesterday in the area, where renewed fighting with ethnic Albanian rebels sent an estimated 250 refugees moving down the mountains away from the clashes on foot and on horseback. They said they had been hiding in the hills for three days; some were crying.

Journalists said the army seized the village of Ivaja in the mountains along the border. They said the Yugoslav and Serb forces, with tanks and heavy armor, were setting fire to haystacks and smoke was rising from over the hills.

The army acknowledged the fighting in the region for the first time, saying in a statement that troops were responding to attacks by ethnic Albanian guerrillas with small arms, hand grenades and mortars. It said it had confiscated large quantities of arms and ammunition and was continuing its "chase" for the "terrorists."

In the north, international monitors said cannon fire was heard near Vucitrn – a flashpoint in recent weeks – and government forces were apparently trying to push KLA rebels away from five Serb villages in the area.



Richard Holbrooke (Reuters)

Holbrooke negotiated last year's Kosovo cease-fire and the 1995 agreement which ended the Bosnian war.

His arrival signals a new phase in the US push for an agreement, but the Albanian side still has not signed onto the deal despite American assurances they would do so in the past days.

KLA spokesman Jakup Krasniqi told the Albanian-language newspaper *Koha Ditore* in remarks published yesterday that the signing will take place once all rebel leaders are back in Kosovo.

That includes Hashim Thaci, a rebel commander who headed the ethnic Albanian delegation at peace talks last month in Rambouillet, France. He is wanted in Yugoslavia for alleged murder in the deaths of Serb policemen.

But KLA headquarters raised questions about a signing when it said in a statement late Monday that it would be conditioned on a halt of all Serb military activities in Kosovo.

Qatar opposes strikes on Iraq as missions continue

DOHA (Reuters) – Moderate Gulf state Qatar called yesterday for an end to US and British air strikes on Iraq, shortly before US warplanes carried out the latest in a series of bombing missions against Iraqi defense sites.

US F-15E planes bombed Iraqi installations in the northern no-fly zone after being tracked by radar, officials at the jets' base in southern Turkey said.

A spokesman said pilots "acting in self-defense" had hit several sites west and south of the city of Mosul.

Such strikes have become regular events since Iraq decided in December to actively oppose US and British jets patrolling no-fly zones in the north and south of the country established after the 1991 Gulf War.

Qatar's foreign minister, Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani, told a joint news conference with US Defense Secretary William Cohen after talks in the Gulf emirate that his country opposed such military action.

"We do not wish to see Iraq bombed daily or these attacks which are being made in the no-fly zones," Hamad said.

But he said that Iraq must obey UN Security Council resolutions.

"Sometimes (Qatar and the United States) have our differences. I have to say this very frankly," Hamad told reporters. "But let me tell you one thing: the main issue is how to bring peace and stability in the area."

It was the first open opposition to the attacks Cohen had met on his nine-nation Gulf and Middle East tour to promote solidarity against Iraq.

An Iraqi military spokesman in Baghdad said its defenses had driven off US warplanes after they launched five bombs at civilian and military installations in Nineveh province.

Arab League sources said Iraq would urge Arab states at a meeting today to demand an immediate end to the air attacks.

Cohen told the news conference in Qatar "there would be no daily attacks upon the Triple-A batteries (anti-aircraft guns), or the radars, or the surface-to-air missiles, if Saddam Hussein were not trying to take down and destroy our aircraft."

Diplomats have said there is concern in Qatar and other moderate Gulf states about the US strikes because of the suffering of the Iraqi people.



Medics help Sylvie Rouy, contaminated when given a transfusion of HIV-tainted blood while giving birth in 1985, upon her departure from court yesterday. (AP)

Former prime minister acquitted in French HIV blood scandal

PARIS (AP) – Former prime minister Laurent Fabius and another minister were acquitted yesterday in France's tainted blood scandal, but a third official was convicted for his role in two HIV contaminations.

In what was clearly a compromise verdict, former health minister Edmond Hervé was given no penalty despite his conviction.

Judge Christian Le Gunehec said that due to the length of the scandal, Hervé had not benefited from the "presumption of innocence to which he is entitled."

Hervé said the verdict showed that "partisan politics have triumphed over justice and the law." He said he hasn't decided whether to appeal.

His superior, former social affairs minister Georgina Dufoix, was acquitted along with Fabius in the AIDS deaths of five people and the infection of two others during 1985. Hervé was convicted in two of the seven cases.

The ruling by the specially constituted court came in a painful, protracted case infused with both politics and raw emotion.

The court was the first since World War II to try ministers for crimes allegedly committed in office.

It was a scandal that shook France's health system to the core. About 4,000 people contracted the AIDS virus from transfusions in the mid-1980s. Hundreds later died.

For the defendants, the trial was a chance to finally clear their names. Their accusers saw it as a long-overdue moment of reckoning for ministers who, they say, abused the people's faith.

For Fabius, the verdict appeared to provide the rehabilitation he was looking for. Now parliament speaker, he clearly has further political ambitions.

He had been accused of a strategy of favoritism that delayed systematic testing for AIDS, waiting for a French-made test when an American one was available months earlier.

But the court said he actually accelerated the decision-making process that led to testing.

Several victims and relatives cried out with anger when the verdict was announced.

"It's intolerable. I cannot accept this. It's shameful," Sylvie Rouy, 35, said quietly and tearfully as she was led out of the courthouse in a wheelchair.

Rouy, who testified as a witness during the trial, was infected during an August 1985 transfusion while giving birth.

"Fabius saved his political career," she said. "It's atrocious for the victims."

She said she was pleased at Hervé's conviction, but distraught that he was given no penalty.

"I have to live with my penalty every day," she said.

Joelle Bouchet, mother of a hemophiliac who was infected, yelled as Hervé left the court: "You have blood on your hands, Mr. Hervé!"

During 10 days of debate, the special court of three judges and 12 legislators was asked to untangle a complex file detailing the state of medical knowledge about AIDS in the mid-1980s and what France was doing to fight the disease.

The defendants, charged with manslaughter and "attacking the physical integrity of others," faced up to five years in prison and a $90,000 fine.

Hervé, the lowest-ranked of the defendants, was accused by an investigating commission of "strangely apathetic behavior," which led to keeping unsterilized blood products in stock after it was known they could be contaminated.

He and Dufoix were also accused of delaying the availability of imported – and costly – heated blood products, and of negligence in the screening of blood donors.

State prosecutor Jean-François Burgelin had called for all charges to be dropped, saying the affair reflected "an immense breakdown of French medicine" and wasn't the fault of politicians.

US defends handling of China spying scandal

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – US Energy Secretary Bill Richardson yesterday defended the Clinton administration's handling of a Chinese espionage scandal and said he is concerned China is still spying against the United States.

Speaking on NBC, Richardson said the US government had acted quickly in plugging leaks of nuclear secrets to China.

On Monday, Richardson said a Chinese-American scientist working at Los Alamos nuclear laboratory in New Mexico, who allegedly handed over nuclear secrets to China, had been fired.

"We fired him as he had misused security, he had had improper contact with foreign officials and violated a number of security procedures," Richardson said, adding that no one else was under suspicion at the laboratory.

The scientist has not been charged with anything, and Richardson said the FBI is still investigating him.

The spying scandal has added to strains with Beijing over human rights, trade and Taiwan that have cast a pall over relations just 10 months after a visit to China by President Bill Clinton. China has dismissed reports it spied at Los Alamos as "irresponsible" and without basis, but just how much damage has been done to relations may become clearer during a visit to Washington in April by Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rongji.

Richardson said China could have sought nuclear secrets on its own or had got information from Russia or via alleged thefts from the US nuclear laboratories.

"But clearly, we don't know the extent of the damage from these thefts. They were serious. They were unconscionable. We are concerned the Chinese are conducting espionage. We make no illusions about Chinese behavior," he said.

Richardson denied charges by Republican members of Congress that the administration had failed to act decisively after learning in the mid-1990s that nuclear secrets had been leaked to China in the 1980s.

Security had been tightened at laboratories, counter-intelligence activities doubled and background checks had also been ordered of foreign visitors, he said.

Impasse remains over Belfast gov't, IRA arms

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK

BELFAST (AP) – The two politicians critical to making Northern Ireland's peace accord work held another testy, inconclusive meeting yesterday, underscoring fears on both sides that the peace process may finally be stalled by irreconcilable differences.

Ulster Unionist Party leader David Trimble, the British Protestant politician elected to lead the new government at the heart of the accord, again told Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams that the Irish Republican Army-allied party cannot take part in the new governing structure unless the IRA starts disarming first.

"I can't say that there was an awful lot of progress. But we have agreed to meet again," Trimble said after the meeting.

Adams, a reputed former IRA commander, accused Trimble of stalling the formation of the government in hopes of driving the outlawed group to abandon its 20-month-old truce, an act that would ensure Sinn Fein's exclusion.

Adams, who met separately with Britain's Northern Ireland Secretary Mo Mowlam, said Trimble had warned Mowlam he would "collapse the whole process" by resigning as Ulster Unionist leader, unless he got his way on the IRA arms question.

The British dread that scenario, since most of Trimble's potential successors take a harder line, with some openly opposed to the accord.

The government's 10 department heads – including three Ulster Unionists and two Sinn Fein members – were to have been appointed by October. Mowlam this week reluctantly switched her latest target date for the new Belfast administration's formation from March 10 to April 2.

The peace accord calls for Sinn Fein to use its influence with the IRA to achieve the group's total disarmament by May 2000, but specified no starting point. It also did not explicitly tie the disarmament issue to Sinn Fein's eligibility to hold office. The accord does, however, require would-be government ministers to "demonstrate commitment to exclusively democratic and peaceful means," which Trimble cites in arguing that means disarmament should start beforehand.

WORLD

in brief

RJR sells international tobacco business

NEW YORK (AP) – RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp., the second-biggest US cigarette maker, is selling its international tobacco business to Japan Tobacco Inc. for nearly $8 billion and plans to separate its remaining food and tobacco interests. The twin announcements yesterday would mean a breakup of a company that was acquired just over a decade ago for about $25b. in what was the biggest leveraged buyout to that time. The firm had told analysts last month that it was looking to sell or find a partner for its struggling international tobacco business. But it came as a surprise that its board had also endorsed a plan for subsequent spinoff of the domestic tobacco business.

Russia mulls response to kidnap in Chechnya

MOSCOW (Reuters) – President Boris Yeltsin, facing a new challenge to his authority, yesterday called for security to be tightened in some parts of Russia following the kidnap of Maj.-Gen. Gennady Shpigun. Yeltsin made his demand at talks with Interior Minister Sergei Stepashin, who had earlier discussed Russia's response to Friday's kidnapping with security chiefs and Kremlin aides.

"The president told Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov to hold an operational meeting to work out measures to maintain order in a number of Russian regions because of the situation in the Chechen republic," a Kremlin spokesman said by telephone.

Gov't cuts taxes for new businesses

LONDON (AP) – Britain will cut taxes for corporations and ease taxes on individuals with new 10 percent rates for new businesses and low incomes, Treasury chief Gordon Brown announced yesterday. The 10% rate for individuals, which was one of the governing Labor Party's election promises in 1997, will apply to the first £1,500 (NIS 9,700) of taxable income, Brown said. It will be effective in April. Brown also announced he was cutting the basic rate of income tax, on earnings up to £27,100 (NIS 175,800) per year, from 23% to 22% in April next year. The top rate of income tax remains at 40%. Brown projected that government debt would shrink from 41% of the national income this year to 37% by 2002.

Prince Charles starts visit to Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (AP) – Polo and trade ranked high on the agenda for the visit of Prince Charles, the most senior member of the British royal family to come to Argentina since the 1982 Falkland Islands War. He arrived yesterday, ready to lay a wreath at the memorial honoring the 750 Argentines lost in the fight over the South Atlantic archipelago. The tribute comes four months after President Carlos Menem paid homage to Britain's 272 dead soldiers during a visit to London – the first by an Argentine head of state since the war's end. England is now the third largest investor in Argentina, which in turn absorbs nearly $500 million in English goods.

New setback for German nuclear pullout plan

BONN (Reuters) – Controversial plans by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's government to phase out nuclear energy were thrown into new doubt yesterday as negotiations with the nuclear industry were halted over a separate tax row. A spokeswoman for Veba AG, one of the country's largest utilities, said after a meeting between nuclear firms and Schroeder that talks were suspended until the tax issue is settled. She said a working group made up of industry and government officials would be asked to assess the cost to companies of a tax reform that would change the way accounting reserves are treated.

Over 100 traders die in Sierra Leone sinking

FREETOWN (Reuters) – More than 100 traders drowned and around 100 are missing after their overloaded boat sank three days ago in rough seas off the Freetown peninsula, an official of the Sierra Leone Boatmen Union said yesterday. "We have rescued about 50 people, close to another 100 are still missing and now feared dead, as during our search yesterday we only found six passengers alive, but in bad medical condition," he added.

The accident happened on Saturday after traders, many carrying drums of petrol, left for Banana Island, south of the peninsula, which has become a thriving trading post in recent months after rebels cut off access routes to Freetown.

Police arrest Basque militant during Aznar visit

PARIS (AP) – Police yesterday arrested the head of the military wing of the Basque separatist group ETA, on the same day Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar was visiting the French capital.

Police nabbed Javier Arizcuren-Ruiz, also known as "Kantauri," as he left a hotel in Paris. In total, six alleged ETA members were arrested in two separate raids. All six had been under close surveillance this week and were armed, police said. Kantauri, being investigated for an alleged role in 18 killings during ETA's armed struggle, is accused of ordering the failed 1995 assassination of Spain's King Juan Carlos.

Barbie turns 40; no signs of aging

NEW YORK (AP) – Barbie turned 40 yesterday and isn't showing any signs of slowing down. Mattel Inc. plans to release a Butterfly Art Barbie, with a butterfly tattoo on her stomach, and Working Woman Barbie, who comes with a play laptop and cell phone. There will also be a 40th anniversary doll and the US Postal Service is to unveil an official Barbie stamp.

Barbie doll sales have been sliding. Kids today stop playing with Barbie dolls at an earlier age, instead favoring high-tech toys, such as CD-ROMs and video games, clothes and makeup. Barbie, who boasts sales of about $2 billion a year, has had more than 75 careers since the doll was first introduced in 1959.

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The blurry Center

When today's gathering of the Center Party was initially planned, it was assumed that the party's Knesset slate would have been finalized and its platform established. So far, however, the Center Party has only been able to agree upon its generic-sounding name and a campaign slogan: "Only Mordechai can win big." The slogan will remain as farfetched as it sounds today if the Center Party does not quickly overcome its lack of identity, unity, and substance.

The concept of a centrist party is to appeal to the broad swath of the public that has had it with politics and politicians, and is looking for someone who will make government work and leave them alone. Most people, even many who are ideologically committed one way or the other, prefer compromise over confrontation, and solutions over stalemate.

The Center Party is billing itself as the ideal collection of reasonable people. In fact, Yitzhak Mordechai, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, and Dan Meridor all have individually built reputations of quiet competence and pragmatism, if not great creativity and drive to reform. Ronni Milo, the fourth of the leading foursome, fits the model least, having swung from one end of the spectrum to the other and landed as a "centrist" by default.

There are a number of problems, however, with the foursome's bid to become the "reasonable" party in the public's eye. First, there is the fact that the two other candidates for prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak, also can make strong appeals to the center. Barak himself seems cut from roughly the same ideological cloth as Mordechai and Lipkin-Shahak, all of whom served at the same time on the same IDF General Staff. Even Netanyahu, who is so quick to paint himself as poles apart from the others, has been revealed as a centrist by Ze'ev Begin's new right-wing Herut bloc.

The center is a blurry place to begin with, and having all three major candidates positioned in a tight constellation near it only blurs the concept further. The centrists identity problem is further exacerbated by their failure so far to represent a new style of politics – one of their major initial selling points. If there is anything that typifies politics in the public eye, it is opportunism, obsession with personal advancement, and lack of adherence to principle.

On this score, the foursome is perhaps given insufficient credit, in that it took a significant amount of political courage for each of them to step into the wilderness rather than taking the more conventional paths available to them. But the drawn-out process of choosing the leader of the party, and now the party list, has reinforced the perception that the party is driven more by personal ambition than by ideas. Even if the Center Party leaders are no more or less ambitious and opportunistic than their rivals in the other parties, the centrists' claim to distinction is being better, not just more of the same.

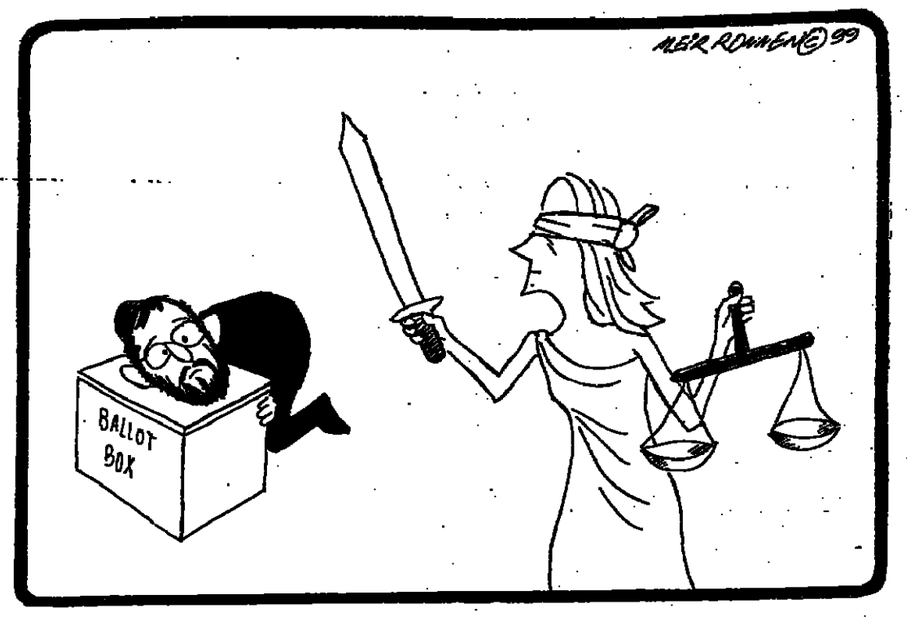
Today's festivities at the Tel Aviv Cinerama are unlikely to change such perceptions or realities, but it is not too late to do so. The new party has promised a practical platform, full of concrete approaches to addressing long-neglected or stalled social, economic, and diplomatic quandaries. If it manages to produce such a detailed platform, and doggedly promotes it to the public in a unified manner, the Center Party may yet convince voters that they are facing a new political phenomenon.

By hammering out tough compromises within the party's own diverse leadership, the Center Party could bring to life some of its other newly minted slogans, such as "Only Mordechai can unite the people," and "Only Mordechai can make peace with consensus." Both of these slogans touch on a credible potential asset of Mordechai and the Center Party – the ability to break out of the zero-sum game of Israeli politics.

Both Labor and the Likud are stymied by the fact that whatever they propose will be automatically suspect by half the nation, even if the opposing half would have supported the same proposition if offered by their own party.

Mordechai himself, as an Israeli success story and the embodiment of the integration of religious and secular, peace and security, is a natural national reconciliation candidate.

But if the Center Party cannot demonstrate reconciliation within itself, it cannot successfully offer itself as a model for the nation. Petty squabbles, such as Milo's reported veto over MK Alex Lubotzky, the most natural candidate for the fifth position on the Center list, lead to the perception that even the party's commitment to its flagship issue – religious-secular reconciliation – is not being taken seriously. The Center Party must quickly demonstrate what it stands for through its slate and its platform, or it will be remembered as a well-meaning experiment that never quite coalesced.



Via Damascus or via Beirut?

MOSHE ZAK

I don't buy the view of the senior American official who unequivocally decided that Lebanon would not reach agreement with Israel without us first signing an agreement with Syria.

Past experience has shown that predictions of this kind do not always prove accurate. Five years ago, senior officials in Washington said that Jordan would never sign a peace agreement with Israel without Syria. Needless to say, Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein took the American administration by surprise with their joint declaration, later signed on the White House lawn.

This latest American assertion is aimed at influencing the debate within the Israeli establishment on how to assure the pacification of our northern border, by linking a withdrawal to the appeasing of Damascus or by conducting separate talks with Beirut.

The IDF's initial entry to Lebanon in the 1970s was at the request of the Maronite Christians, who sought our help in blocking Syria's penetration of Lebanon.

It would extremely ironic if, after a 23-year long stay in Lebanon, we would have to remunerate Syria for any settlement in Lebanon with a withdrawal from the Golan. The ramifications of the terms of such a withdrawal would be felt far beyond the Lebanese security zone.

The two perceptions of how best to withdraw from Lebanon are based on speculation rather than firm evidence. There is no certainty that talks with Syria will result in the longed-for peace on northern border, nor is there any evidence that Lebanon can be maneuvered into moving alone towards some form of armistice agreement with Israel.

Interestingly, during the 1949 armistice negotiations, Israel requested that Syria and Lebanon be bound together so as to force a withdrawal to the international border on both fronts. The Syrians, however, objected so that when Israel returned 11 villages to Lebanon, Syria refused to return land it had taken from Israel beyond the international border.

Both those who support the Syrian track and those who favor the Lebanese track, at least acknowledge that Israel does not wish to remain in Lebanon, and this is good for our global image.

It still isn't certain that Lebanon won't talk to us directly about a withdrawal, but Syria will do its best to extract concessions from us first

But Beirut and Damascus view things differently. They interpret our honest desire for peace as submission by Israel to terrorist operations, which serves to elicit further blackmail in the form of tougher conditions in any negotiation.

SYRIA did not initiate the use of terror against Israel as a response to the IDF entering Lebanon. It developed this line of action in the 1960s, when Syrian intelligence trained Arafat's Fatah for its first operations against Israel and it has found expression in various forms of terror since.

One of the episodes was recently revealed in documents declassified from May 1967. A Syrian agent, in possession of arms and sophisticated equipment, was caught that month on an Israeli beach. His interrogation showed that his mission was to assassinate several Israeli figures, based on a list found on his person.

The man was jailed and released only after the Yom Kippur War. He was later killed in Lebanon during Operation Peace for the Galilee.

The legendary Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, the Vietnamese expert on guerrilla warfare, told two Israeli generals before his death that Palestinian terror leaders had consulted with him on the question of their campaign against Israel.

He told them that Vietnam and Israel could not be compared. Unlike the Israelis, the Americans had a country to return to. The Israelis would not give in, as they are tied to their country and have nowhere else to go. They would fight determinedly and there would be no chance of defeating them in a guerrilla war.

Giap was right. The Palestinians were unable to beat the Israelis in their own country. However, where there is a national consensus on the need to withdraw, such as in Lebanon, the temptation to increase anti-Israel terror is greater.

When the American administration openly announces its inclination to include Syria in the negotiations on Lebanon, and Washington indicates that Hafez Assad will not have to balance its moves towards the Arabs with a parallel move towards Israel, Damascus can conclude that terror pays.

In this situation there is no certainty that the Syrians will be in any hurry to reach agreement to make Israel's position in Lebanon easier, just as there is no certainty that the Lebanese will summon up the courage to conduct any form of independent negotiations with Israel.

While we want to see rapidly concluded negotiations, the other side believes that it must not miss this opportunity – while Israel's morale is low following the death of its officers in Lebanon– to blackmail Israel into making considerable concessions.

Correct diplomacy must separate the impact of the grief from the efforts to negotiate an agreement.

Baring all

NEAL GABLER

If ever one needed an event to mark the end of privacy in America, last week's interview with Monica Lewinsky would certainly qualify.

For two hours, under the gentle prodding of Barbara Walters, young Lewinsky cheerfully bared everything, from her sexual proclivities to her battles with her weight, and revealed quite a few of President Clinton's secrets, for good measure.

The only thing she left to the imagination was her feelings about independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr, and that only because she feared this Savonarola's reprisal.

Of course, Lewinsky is no pioneer. She was only following a well-worn trail that Walters herself had helped blaze.

For years, critics have complained that the steady incursion of the media into the private lives of public figures has eroded privacy until nothing is off-limits.

But these critics might have it all wrong. It is not that there isn't any privacy left. It is that there is nothing left of what used to be called the "public."

The constant revelation of the private has reduced the public and gradually usurped it until there is really no public life anymore: There is little serious public discourse, nothing that doesn't concern private behavior.

In fact, even conservatives, who once insisted on the primacy of privacy and saw intrusions into private life as unseemly, now insist on the continuity between what one does behind closed doors and what one does outside those doors. Or, put another way, when intimacies become the center of our public discourse, there is only confession and gossip.

What a sea change this is. It wasn't so long ago that journalists and celebrities, be they politicians or entertainers, observed a strict demarcation between what was intended for public consumption and what was intended to be private. As Humphrey Bogart so pungently put it, all he owed his fans was a good performance.

The fate of public discourse in a society that's all secrets, all the time

The Lewinsky interview was an object lesson in the end of the public, just as it was an object lesson in the flaunting of the private. There was scarcely a moment in the two-hour interview that was not dedicated to Lewinsky telling us some lurid detail or displaying some personal dysfunction as Walters sat there, with the rapt eagerness of a dog begging for table scraps. Lest all this seem stale, Walters promised a new "startling revelation," which turned out to be that Lewinsky had had an affair with a Pentagon official, had gotten pregnant and then had an abortion. In short, Lewinsky had turned her deepest secrets into a tease for her interview and book.

She and Walters did the same thing for Clinton, making the private public and thus brutally shoving aside anything that did not concern the private. So we got a peek behind the public man: at his marriage, his broken pledge of fidelity, his talents as a lover. Clinton was treated as if he were just another of Walters' movie-star subjects, for whom the actual work, the film, was much less exciting than the life. After all, who wants to talk public policy when you can talk phone sex?

OF course, Lewinsky is only a symptom. She realized that in a culture where celebrities are vying for attention, one of the best ways to get it – one of the only ways to get it – is by divulging all.

Other celebrities sit for Walters or for *Vanity Fair*, knowing that the transaction is publicity for secrets, because they know few people really care about what little remains of the public: their work. In a sense, Walters is just a highfalutin' version of Oprah Winfrey; both are in the same business: voyeurism.

It has come to that. Tens of millions of viewers watched the Lewinsky interview and millions of others are rushing to buy her tell-all book, making us the first generation to know as much, if not more, about our president's sexual habits than about his policies.

Nearly 25 years ago, in his classic study, *The Fall of Public Man*, sociologist Richard Sennett, fearing the rise of personal confession and psychobabble, warned this might happen. Now, in a society that is all secrets, all the time, we have fulfilled Sennett's prophecy.

(Los Angeles Times)

The great Houdini

DAVID NEWMAN

There is nothing like an election campaign for political jokes. One of the jokes making the rounds these days goes like this:

There is a new rule in the afterworld. It has been decided that everyone will be entitled to walk around with a sign that states what they were during their lifetime. The wearing of the sign has to be ratified by a committee.

The pope, Marilyn Monroe, and Houdini approach the committee on the same day.

The pope asks for permission to wear a sign which states that he was the most pious man of the 20th century. After a five-minute deliberation, the committee ratifies the wearing of the sign.

Marilyn Monroe asks for a sign that attests to her being the most famous sex symbol of the modern era. The committee approves this sign within minutes.

Finally, Houdini demands a sign that states he was the century's greatest escape artist.

The committee begins its deliberations, which extend into a second and third day. Finally, Houdini is seen storming out of the room with no sign around his neck. He slams the door and screams: "Who is this Netanyahu person, anyway?"

Given the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel, the farcical attempt to appoint Roni Bar-On as attorney-general, the botched Mossad operations, the collapse of the peace process, and various other mistakes, small and large, that culminated in many longtime Likud members abandoning the party, any neutral observer would be forgiven for assuming there was no way Netanyahu could win the next elections.

But given, at the same time, the inability of Ehud Barak to promote himself as a realistic alternative and the skepticism which surrounds the new Center Party – which right now seems to have more potential candidates than potential voters – Netanyahu has a very real chance of being reelected.

If his opponents don't get their act together, Netanyahu may yet win these elections

In some ways, Netanyahu is in a "no-lose" situation.

TAKE, for instance, the rumors that are circulating to the effect that Hamas has promised not to commit any terror attacks prior to the elections, or that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat has made a secret commitment to Shimon Peres that he will not declare the establishment of a Palestinian state in early May.

Either way, Netanyahu benefits. If there are terror attacks or if Arafat were to unilaterally declare an independent state, many "undecideds" could be pushed into Netanyahu's corner – enough to give him a victory.

If, on the other hand, it was shown that secret commitments had been made by representatives of either Hamas or the PA with leading Labor Party members, either directly or via the Clinton administration, this too would be seized upon by the Likud which could argue against outsiders' intervention in the electoral process, or highlight the political links between the Labor Party and the "enemies" of the state.

One the other hand, even if there is no terror attack and no deal, then the Likud could use this period of relative stability to demonstrate that it was the hard line adopted by Netanyahu that brought about greater security for Israel's citizens, as compared to the terror attacks that took place under the Labor administration. Any way you look at it, Netanyahu comes out ahead.

More significantly, Netanyahu appears to have got his party's act together, despite the mass defections. The Likud has an attractive list that appeals to a more diverse population, and its central committee election was relatively tame compared to the embarrassing scenes that took place after the Labor Party primary. The Center Party, meanwhile, seems to be having trouble putting any form of list together whatsoever.

One might think that with all the bad publicity Netanyahu has gotten during the past three years, his era is coming to an end. But such an assumption indicates a serious lack of understanding of the internal dynamics and intricacies of Israeli politics.

If Netanyahu returns to power in May or June of this year, he will have proved, more so than Houdini, that he indeed is the century's champion escape artist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POSTPONING DEATH

Sir, – Yet another sociology professor has made a fool of himself, this time on the front page of *The Jerusalem Post*.

David Phillips, a South African expatriate at the University of California at San Diego, brings us the comic insight that people postpone their own deaths to enjoy completing life-cycle events.

He notes that death rates fall 35 percent in the week before the Pessah seder and rise by a corresponding amount the week after. He noted a similar pre- and post-Yom Kippur effect in an earlier study.

His breathtaking ignorance comes from not having come on aliya to live in the land where, during every extended hospital strike, death rates fall – only to rise again once the doctors and nurses go back to work.

Aside from supporting the truism that most people die in hospitals, this phenomena also feeds newspaper columnists and their ilk with jokes that everyone enjoys.

The reason death rates fall immediately prior to major holidays of all kinds, in all countries, is that people postpone hospital stays for elective procedures lest they be stuck in the hospital over the holiday.

They are encouraged to do this by their doctors who want to reduce their own workload during the holiday, and who do not want to put up with endless nudging by relatives to release their patients quickly so that they can at least enjoy part of the holiday at home.

It is a sad but obvious fact that invasive medical procedures will sometimes kill sickly patients outright, and hasten the death of others. Avoiding them is the reason why there is a short-term drop in death rates in the week before major holidays.

And if David Phillips were living in Israel, where he belongs, instead of in San Diego, where he does not, he'd know this.

MICHAEL STORCH

Jerusalem.

ARBITRARY AND UNREASONABLE

Sir, – In a well written document "It's for all of us," (February 16), Evelyn Gordon cited recent decisions of the Supreme Court, holding that exemption of yeshiva students should not be upheld. Her statement that the Barak court has abused judicial activism in substituting the court's notion of what is reasonable as against the Knesset's view of reasonable, might be valid in many instances. Some are mentioned where the court might have arrogated to itself and acted as an unelected super Knesset. With respect to the yeshiva student decision, I must respectfully differ.

It is the function of the Supreme Court to review administrative decisions, and just as such a court does in America, I assume the court in Israel has the duty to review them by a standard that they not be arbitrary and unreasonable. It would be hard put not to find that exempting yeshiva students (to date 29,000) is in fact arbitrary and unreasonable and places an unfair and unequal burden on those not exempt from serving, and as such, the decision of the minister of defense cannot be sustained.

To be fair, the Barak court did not substitute its judgment for that of the Knesset in this matter, but made a finding that what was decided by the minister of defense, an administrative official, was unreasonable and arbitrary, all within recognized law here and abroad.

ARTHUR GRUDER

Jerusalem.

TEACHING EGGED ENGLISH

Sir, - I noticed with interest your item informing us that Egged is teaching its drivers to speak English. Perhaps they should also teach them how to drive without throwing passengers off their feet.

I also noticed that bus fares rose yet again this week. The excuse given was the rise in the cost of living index. I seem to remember that the press and radio said it had dropped last month.

By raising fares Egged is encouraging people to travel by private transport. Surely, if fares were lowered, Egged would benefit from an increase in passengers and city centers would benefit from a decrease in congestion.

CHAIM COLLINS

Jerusalem.

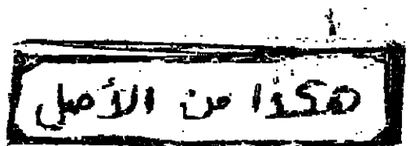
FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On March 10, 1949, *The Palestine Post* reported an official denial of British allegations that an undisclosed Israeli force had crossed the Transjordanian border, exchanging fire with the Arab Legion troops. Israel admitted that a Jewish force was moving in the direction of the Red Sea, but gave no further details.

25 years ago: On March 10, 1974, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that President Hafez Assad of Syria pledged to continue the state of war, launched last October, until Israel withdrew to the pre-1967 borders and restored the "full rights" of the Palestinians. French TV showed the first-ever film of Israel POWs held in Syria.

Alexander Zvielli





هكذا من الأعلى

Moms of litters in the loop

Mothers of multiples are bonding together to get through the rough times, writes **Randi Hutter-Epstein**



Roxanne O'Brien, here playing with her 3 1/2-year-old identical twin boys, goes on an annual moms-only retreat with mothers of multiples she met online. (The Washington Post)

It is eight o'clock on a warm evening in late winter. About 15 women are sitting in a circle on the floor of a community room on the Upper East Side in Manhattan. They seem tired. They look stressed. Some are in jeans and sweat shirts. Others are fresh from the office.

One by one they say their names, ages of children and work status. It feels like an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. But these women, in their 30s and 40s, do not suffer from a medical illness.

Yet they gather once a month – much the way hundreds of other women do nationwide – because they share one thing in common: They are mothers of twins. Many of these mothers used fertility drugs. Others had their twins the old-fashioned way.

Across the nation, indeed across the globe, mothers of multiples are reaching out for camaraderie, not to mention secondhand baby equipment. Sometimes they meet in cyberspace, sharing virtual coffee or cocktails. (They type symbols that look like mugs or martini glasses.)

Sometimes they meet in real life, sharing real bottles of wine or pizzas. Wherever or however, the intention is the same: to provide mothers of multiples a place to share the emotional, practical and medical aspects of raising litters of children.

All mothers from time to time feel drained from sleep deprivation, guilty that they are not the perfect parent, or stressed from trying to balance work with raising a family. But mothers of multiples believe their situation is more than multiplied by two.

Recent studies lend credibility to that impression. Twin pregnancies are more stressful on the body compared with a single pregnancy because of the physical weight of twins as well as greater hormonal fluctuations.

What's more, raising twins creates dilemmas for a family. When, for example, and how often should multiples be separated from each other? Rivalry among twins can also be more intense than among singletons. These issues can become so divisive for a family, some experts suggest that women considering fertility drugs receive counseling on the emotional impact of multiples.

While the financial impact of the fertility treatment – which can run upwards of thousands of dollars – is well known, the psychological consequences for parents and the children is often overlooked.

"When it's a total meltdown and I need to talk to a friend, I'd call a twin friend (mother of twin) first. We understand each other, we tend to let each other off the hook," said Karyl Casiero, the former president of the Brooklyn Mothers of Twinsclub.

WHAT'S going on here? Do twins – or rather, their moms – really have special needs? Are they just needier people? Have their hormones gone so far out of whack that they will reach out to anyone willing to provide a morsel of positive feedback?

Psychologists say all mothers could benefit from a psychological boost now and then, but mothers of multiples do experience more stress and fatigue. They say that mothers of twins are more prone to feelings of inadequacy, isolation and guilt compared with mothers of singletons.

"All mothers have an unconscious desire to be the perfect mother to the perfect child, but with twins this is nearly impossible. That is why I do see a special need for support, particularly during infancy, when you feel that neither child gets the attention you wish you could provide.

"You cannot get immersed in that blissful bond," said Leslie Deutch, a New York-based psychoanalyst who has written extensively about twins and is the mother of twin six-year-old boys.

Multiples have prompted a growing self-help industry. There is a National Mothers of Twins Club with chapters in most states. Hundreds of women are expected at the 39th annual convention of the NMOTC convention in St. Louis this July for talks on child development, stress management and plenty of time for mother-of-multiples bonding with dinners, drinks and touring.

There is a Web site and a biweekly computer chat for parents of multiples. There are magazines dedicated to twins and several newsletters.

"The Internet is my lifeline," said Joni Winfandale, 33, from Annville, Pa., about 25 miles outside of Hershey. Winfandale has children aged 13, 11, six and 3 1/2-year-old twins. She corresponds with 22 other parents (one father among 21 women).

"Oh my gosh, it's a wonderful network of people who live your life, who understand the joys and frustrations that most people without multiples can't relate to."

There are lunches and meetings and retreats. Beth Fidoten, an advertising executive and mother of three-year-old twins in New York, attended a luncheon for parents of twins in media and ad sales. "Informally, someone got a job through the network," she said.

New Yorker Roxanne O'Brien, mother of 3 1/2-year-old identical twin boys and a six-year-old boy, goes on an annual moms-only retreat with mothers of multiples she met online.

"We have an e-mail loop with mothers of twins throughout the country and last year four of us met in Connecticut. We gabbed, drank pots of coffee and shared photos of the kids. This year we're going to New Orleans."

There are even clinics that specialize in multiples. In England, Elizabeth Bryan, a pediatrician, restricts her practice to twins, triplets, quadruplets and up. Bryan launched the first medical clinic dedicated to multiples. Now there are similar clinics in Sweden, France and Japan.

"Studies show that [having multiples] does seem to be more stressful. I think it's the emotional stress of having to relate to several children at the same time and a lot of mothers end up with more children than they planned for," said Bryan, of Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital in London.

The boom in multiple births is fueled, in part, by fertility drugs that spur several eggs per monthly menstrual cycle rather than the normal one egg per month. Twinhood is no longer a rarity, with births of twins climbing 37 percent from 1980 to 1996, according to the most recent statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. Triplet births soared 344 percent in the same time period.

MANY mothers taking care of multiples say what they need are friends who understand them.

New Yorker Lauren Fishbach, 33, is a mother of twin 2 1/2-year-olds and a twin herself.

"Every Friday night, I logged into the AOL (America Online) chat group for mothers of twins," said Fishbach. "My kids were preemies, 6 1/2 weeks early. They were so very, very tiny. I never went out. I felt like I was on my own. When you are not getting out and there is no one to talk to, it felt like someone was there. Instant friends."

But Fishbach's mother, who has four children including Lauren and her twin sister, never bothered with clubs.

"It was different then," said Fishbach. "My mother and all of her friends were in their early 20s and having kids at the same time. There was instant camaraderie."

Today, many mothers are well beyond their 20s. They often work and have careers. Long-term friends may be at different parenting stages or they may not be parents at all. Motherhood kinship seems to be thinning. Even if there is playground time, family and work schedules are not always in sync.

As a result, mothers of twins, in increasing numbers, are searching for new friends to offer support. Indeed, membership in the national twins club ballooned from 8,000 12 years ago to more than 21,000 today.

These clubs are not for everyone. Patricia Cafferty, a Briton who lived a few years in Manhattan with her twin toddlers and six-year-old daughter, said, "I thought it was such an American thing – all this touchy-feely stuff seemed too obsessive."

Still, Cafferty conceded that she likes the practical aspects of a support group to get the lists for childcare services and equipment.

SOMETIMES, there's a memorable tip: Liz Starr, mother of seven-year-old boys, said, "When my boys were younger and needed a place to bounce around and get out of the stroller, I'd take them to Jennifer Convertibles. You tell them you're looking at couches and let them bounce around a few minutes."

Mothers also fill out "mentoring cards" – mothers with particular twins experiences willing to help others in similar situations.

Susan Lippert-Kasarsky said she would be willing to speak with mothers whose babies require surgery – one of her twins had open-heart surgery. Carrie Nichols said she knows how to wade through the red tape of the public education system to find programs for children with special needs. Other mothers said they would be available to talk about breast-feeding twins.

O'Brien, who leads the mothers of toddler twins groups, said she's on the Internet every Monday evening from 8 to 10. "We call ourselves loopies because we're in the loop."

They send each other one-liners that range from amusing anecdotes about the twins to serious issues about marital or family strife. They also share medical advice.

"For some people the e-mail becomes an obsession. They're reading their correspondence from twin mothers every day," O'Brien said.

Adds Deutch: "Mothers of twins are hungry and that's were the irritability comes from. There's a hunger to be restored; marriages take a beating. I think mothers of twins take a beating. They are depleted. And meetings are something like mass feedings. Everyone gets a smidgen."

(The Washington Post)

Splitting mother in two

Leslie Deutch, a psychoanalyst, said mothers of multiples "can feel very inadequate as mothers. They experience terrible, disabling guilt. You have two babies going through the same developmental periods at the same time, needing the same kind of attention and hugs precisely at the same time."

For instance, she added, if you are nursing both babies, "perhaps one baby is capturing your attention and the other is searching for your face and can't make eye contact with you. You can't turn away from that baby, and yet you have that wrenching feeling knowing the other baby is longing for your gaze.

"You have a feeling that you'll never have enough to give even if you give every ounce of strength and you feel drained."

The stresses are compounded because multiples are often born prematurely, with accompanying medical problems, she noted. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, twins account for only 2 percent of all births, but 17 percent of low-birth weight babies and 12 percent of infant deaths.

Susan Meadvin, CSW, a Manhattan therapist and twins specialist, explained that the special needs start in pregnancy because it is high-risk. "Immediately after birth, the world says 'this is hard,' and you don't get a lot of positive support," she said. "In New York, many twin mothers are older and had been on fertility drugs, so there is already a feeling of 'differentness.'" Mothers of multiples also may take more time to recover from the birth.

"There is also the issue of body image, there is more weight gain, more discomfort, and the body doesn't go back so quickly," said Meadvin.

"Twins may be scrawnier than the average child, so they may not meet your expectations of what a child should be like," she added. "The cost of two babies is astronomical. Mothers may feel anxious that they are not giving enough or do not have enough to give."

During infancy and toddler years, twins groups tend to focus on the mothers' needs, Meadvin said. As children enter school, the clubs shift to the needs of the children.

ONE key issue is when to separate multiples and under what circumstances. Experts in child development note that siblings have to establish their individual identity in a family. Twins and triplets have a much harder time setting their boundaries, in part because parents and caregivers often treat multiples as one, and partly because many multiples, particularly identical twins, treat themselves as a single unit.

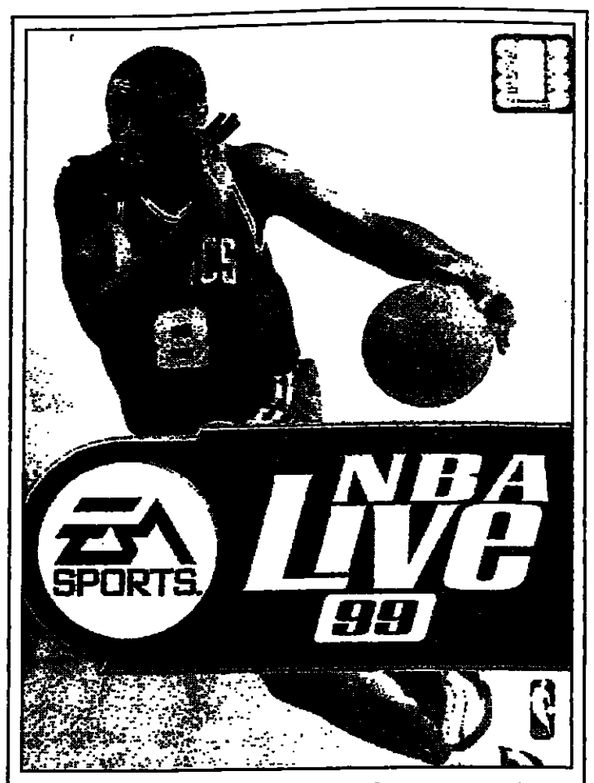
But from the beginning, or by the age of one, twins should spend time alone so they can start to develop different interests and opinions. Educators usually allow twins to stay together in the nursery school years, but encourage separation by kindergarten.

Elizabeth Bryan, a British pediatrician, wants prospective parents to know that there is a complex culture surrounding the phenomenon of multiple births. She presents monthly slide shows, full of trivia, advice and biology. She mentions famous twins of literature from Tweedledum and Tweedledee in *Alice in Wonderland* to Shakespeare's twins in the *Comedy of Errors*.

Bryan talks about an African tribe that believed twins had innate mystical powers and worshipped them – and another tribe that believed twins were possessed by the devil and killed them.

Psychologically, she points out, multiples have their own timetable of development. It's crucial, she said, to talk to toddlers individually and make eye contact to promote language development, often delayed in twins and triplets.

(The Washington Post)



Create a virtual Michael Jordan



Kesharim (Connections), a set of two CD-ROMs in English, by the Discovery Channel Multimedia and The Learning Channel, distributed by Makhshevet, requires Windows 95 and up, for English-speaking teenagers and adults, NIS 149
Rating: ★★★★

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

NBA 99, a CD-ROM in English, by Electronic Arts (www.easport.com or www.nba.com), distributed by Hed Artzi Multimedia, requires Windows 95 and up and a Pentium computer, for children and adults, NIS 229.
Rating: ★★★★★

Everything is in this entertaining and technologically advanced basketball program – except for just-retired Chicago Bulls megastar Michael Jordan. According to news reports, Jordan refused to have his name and face included among his teammates because the software company that produces it was unwilling to pay the millions of dollars he demanded.

But players can produce a virtual Michael Jordan of their own – or anyone else for that matter – by customizing a player with the weight, height, position, uniform color and number, years of experience, playing skills, university alma mater, hairstyle and color, complexion, facial hair, eyewear, headware – even the expression on his face. *Voilà!* You have, without paying millions, the equivalent of Michael Jordan.

The variety of options in this program seems overwhelming. To help the user, Hed Artzi has produced a 51-page Hebrew instruction booklet for those who aren't native English speakers.

All the NBA teams are there, along with data on the gamut of players and their teams' ratings. Even the scenery of the stadium – complete with advertising banners and announcers – changes according to the identity of the home team.

You can zoom in on each player, one at a time, and they stand before you – stretching, yawning, pulling a leg or moving side to side – so human-like that it seems to be a video clip – but they're all synthetic. Once you've decided which of the teams will play each other, or invented a whole new team down to the color of the shirts, start the game.

You can play arcade style, with quick dunking, minimized rules and other fast performances. The player can also order a three-point shoot-out between two players to see who will choose members of a customized team.

You may also choose a simulation of an authentic game – you can play one team against the computer or just watch the computer play both sides. Each game can be performed at a rookie, starter, all-star or superstar level. If you want the players to be superhuman superstars, they can be immune to injury or fatigue; however, if you want more realism, click the options and they'll get hurt and be relieved.

If you tire of playing against the computer (even though no two games ever turn out the same), you can click on your Internet or network connection and play against others in the office or around the world.

PLAYERS with some of Sherlock Holmes's powers of deduction and his ability to gather clues will fare well with this intelligent game of strategy. Based on two prize-winning TV series of the same name by British author James Burke, the software links together scientific and other innovations prominent in world history.

The venue for this three-dimensional game is a small English village that is so real-looking that you feel you're really there. Meandering through the streets, the user comes across various shops and houses, a castle protected by a moat and other locations. Instead of knocking on the door, you click your mouse to get in.

Burke is your host, and greets you in the study of his house. You're encouraged to look around, clicking on his desk drawers, his answering machine and the safe behind a painting on his wall. You'll feel like a downright snoop, but he politely encourages you to collect information. He pops up from time to time, like a ghost, presenting video clips on various inventions or scientific accomplishments (such as the blastoff of the Apollo spacecraft that landed on the moon).

As you probe your surroundings, you click on objects that are saved on the right of the screen; others – such as a pencil, oscilloscope or TV screen – are filed automatically onto an eight-link chain at the bottom. Whenever the cursor turns into a hand, click on the object underneath to pick it up; you maneuver to other scenes by clicking when a thick arrow appears.

When you manage to find a piece of carbon paper in his desk drawer, Burke explains how this practical (although now obsolete) piece of office equipment was invented: with carbon black and paraffin wax from an oil lamp. You'll need the sheet later to copy something, just as you'll have to use a pencil that you pick up from his desktop to rub on the top page of a block of notepaper to uncover the combination of a safe.

But all these objects are interconnected. If you want to go to the apothecary's shop to buy a bottle of phosphorus, you need the shillings that you can obtain from the wall safe behind the picture in Burke's study. To discover the combination, you must check the driver's license number on the card Burke left in his middle desk drawer.

Then, in order to get the oscilloscope, you must divert the attention of Bob, the man in the fix-it shop. To do so, you have to replay a message on his answering machine so he thinks he has an urgent call.

Everything must be accomplished in a certain order: If you click on a certain object once, it won't function unless you previously discovered another object that had to be clicked first.

I won't tell you where this all leads you – it would spoil the fun. Instead of puffing on a pipe like Sherlock when stumped, use the "Hint" feature to learn how to proceed if you lost your way. I discovered it only after hours of playing and occasionally getting stuck.

The tools learning-disabled kids need



By Ruth Mason

When parents start to suspect or are told by a teacher that their child may have a learning disability, they feel confused and anxious, and not know where to turn. They wonder if they should go the route of the school psychologist, a private psychologist for testing, private tutors, or other kinds of supplementary help.

One option for such parents is Nitzan, a national nonprofit organization for helping the learning disabled from ages four-and-a-half and up.

Nitzan, with 40 branches all over Israel from the Golan Heights to Eilat, is a center for diagnostic testing in the mornings, and a learning center in the afternoons. It is officially recognized by the Ministry of Education and can help learning-disabled pupils and university students obtain easements (*hakalot*) on standardized tests.

Children come for individual lessons in areas in which they are having difficulty in school, be it English, math, Hebrew or computers.

Nitzan also has occupational therapists who work with children who have handwriting, fine motor or gross motor problems.

In Jerusalem, older children also have the option of getting help from Shar Patuah, a five-year-old center for learning-disabled children from the seventh grade. Here, children work in small groups led by university students.

"Every child has a program geared to his or her individual needs," says Marilyn Ben-Moshe, a teacher who is a cofounder of Shar Patuah. "The child sits with four or five others, doing his own work at his own pace, so he doesn't have to worry about the pressure of keeping up with the group."

Ben-Moshe says that many schools don't know what to do for learning-disabled children. She says 34 schools in and around Jerusalem send children to Shar Patuah. Some children come two hours a week, others as many as 12. While the hourly fee is fairly low, Ben-Moshe says she will not turn away a child who cannot afford the fee.

Shar Patuah is working on trying to get Education Ministry recognition as a school. Ben-Moshe says they would like to open in the mornings for children who have been kicked out of school and have no place to go.

Because both Ben-Moshe and her co-founder, Mickey Shaar, have learning disabilities themselves and are parents of learning-disabled children, they feel they have a special ability to relate to them and to their parents.

"Every time a parent or child comes into our office, we know instinctively their pain, frustration, anger, their sadness because we felt it ourselves in our own souls.

"We don't tutor children here; we give them the tools to enable them to go back into classroom and function," says Ben-Moshe.

The staff does this by using techniques such as color coding, highlighting, larger letters when necessary, rulers to help children focus on a line of written material and no frontal teaching.

Says Ronli, a 10th grader who comes to Shar Patuah six hours a week: "It helps me very much. Every problem I have, they sit with me. For a test in school, they'll sit with me for four hours until I know the material."

And Zehava, 15, who has been coming for several months, says: "I was on a really low level in math and now I'm where I'm supposed to be."

Gone with the wind

Gardener's Corner



By Batsheva Mink

Do you have wind howling through your property and bringing along dust? Is your garden in an exposed situation so that many of your plants get blown to kingdom come? You will be happy to know that gardening has an answer to these problems.

Wind can be a problem in many gardens and on balconies and rooftops. Even in seemingly sheltered town plots, buildings and walls can funnel in the air and damage young plants.

Wind damage takes place not only in the winter but also during the hot dry easterly winds (*sharav*), coastal gales and periodic summer sandstorms.

You may not think wind makes much of a difference to plants but in windy weather, and that means breezes as well as gales, they grow much more slowly. In fact, trees even grow a special sort of wood (reaction wood) on the leeward side to strengthen their trunks and branches against the wind, a sensible way of steeling themselves against such ravages.

As a result of strong winds, plants become stunted and new plants take longer to establish themselves. The effect of strong winds is easily seen as plants get knocked over and new plants start to look lopsided.

The lopsided growth on trees is due to young buds and shoots on the windward side getting killed; those plants that do manage to survive are at risk of being blown over in strong winds.

Wind dries out leaves, causing them to turn brown and become brittle or mottled. Flowers tend to become distorted, discolored and short-lived as wind speeds up leaf and petal drop.

In a vegetable patch, wind can reduce yields by as much as a third without any signs of physical damage. Fruit crops do not fare well in exposed situations, as pollinating insects do not like flying in strong winds.

In coastal areas, dust and salt blast particles have an abrasive effect on foliage, causing damage as well as entry points for bacteria and fungus spores.

Most damage is done by the wind rocking plants which weakens roots and inhibits the formation of new roots. The result of the constant rocking is that holes develop near the roots which soon become filled with water. Then the roots of young plants can freeze in the winter or rot off in the summer due to build-up of water in the hole.

MOST gardening books recommend planting delicate plants (usually ones we are interested in or want to grow the most) in a sheltered position. So, if all we have to work with is a windy garden, a wind tunnel or a drafty situation, where do we go from there?

In smaller gardens, plants are easier to shelter from the wind.

The most effective windbreaks are those that merely slow the wind down, such as trees, hedges, slatted wooden fences or barriers made from perforated plastic windbreak material.

Solid barriers need to be extremely high as, when the wind comes up against a solid obstruction, it tends to whip over the top and swirl and eddy over the other side, increasing in speed during the process (turbulence). If you are using solid barriers, make sure that the posts are sunk deep into the ground, and if you are using a plastic windbreak, fix it to the fence posts with battens. A curved or angled windbreak facing the prevailing wind is better than a straight line.

HEDGES make the best windbreak and look better than man-made barriers. They take up more room than fences, but can be kept in bounds with trimming once or twice a year.

In very exposed gardens it may be necessary to erect a slatted fence together with trees and a few shrubs in front.

When buying plants, avoid the larger specimens. While it is true that small plants take longer to establish, they become accustomed to their surroundings and have a better rate of survival. Looking at plants in the great outdoors it is easy to see why native trees and plants survive best in windy situations, because they adapt their growing habit with minimum resistance to the wind.

Keep the area under the hedges free of weeds and rubbish to allow air to pass through easily and stop pests using it as a winter cover. On balconies and terraces, it may be necessary to put up a trellis and plant one or two small trees, a sturdy climber and, if room permits, a few shrubs to shelter the lower-growing plants. In all windy areas, avoid planting trees that have long, heavy branches.

If you do decide to plant a hedge, a good mixture of evergreen and deciduous plants enables the winter winds to filter through. Evergreen hedges on their own can act like a wall, creating turbulence. Always check new trees and shrubs for damage right after a storm, re-firm and re-stake if necessary.

To guard against soil erosion it may be necessary also to put in ground cover plants at a distance of 20 cm. apart, depending on the variety of plants used. Climbing roses are suitable on a fence, but don't let them grow too high.

HERE are a few suggestions for plants that provide shelter from the wind.:

Trees

Tamarisk (Heb. *eshel*), *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* (Heb. *Shameziparis lawson*), *Thuja plicata* (Heb. *tuya*), *Prunus lusitania* (Heb. *shezif*), *Juniper horizontalis* (Heb. *arar ofki*), *Callistermon citrinus* (Heb. *kalistamon etrog*), Atripilex (Heb. *maluah*), fig (Heb. *te'ena*), olive (Heb. *zayit*), bay leaf (*Laurus nobilis* Heb. *zer afzil*).

Shrubs

Rosemary (Heb. *rosmarin refui*), melaluca (Heb. *Melaluca*), pittosporum (Heb. *Pittosporon*), santolina (Heb. *santolina*), euonymus (Heb. *Pilchon*), lavandula (Heb. *ezovion*), oleander (Heb. *handuf*). Myrtus communis (Heb. *hadas-matzui*), privet (Heb. *ligustrom*).

Yuccas, aloe, sabra and agave are all very strong succulent plants that are suitable for windbreaks, especially on roof terraces.

Batsheva Mink is a curator of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Givat Ram.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, POB 3943, Jerusalem 91039.

TIP OF THE WEEK

If you wish to grow a few trees yourself at no cost whatsoever why not try the date palm? Simply collect a few stones from a bag of fresh dates. Place these in pots and cover with a plastic bag. Keep moist and place in a warm shaded spot.

A fast-growing tree is the plum. Put a few stones in a pot. After germination they can be transferred to their permanent positions.



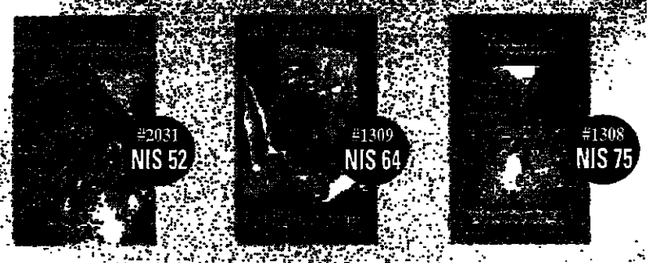
For Pilgrims and Peregrinations



Beyond the Walls: Churches of Jerusalem takes you into the heart and soul of 30 Jerusalem churches to reveal hitherto unknown secrets. Entertaining folk tales, inspiring legends, and exciting historical narratives keep you riveted to the book as you gain a deeper insight into what goes on beyond the walls today, and what happened there in the past.

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Spiteful as a cat

Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

'My brother-in-law absolutely dislikes cats," writes a Tel Aviv reader, "yet he complains that whenever he is in the house, any house, where there is a cat, the animal immediately attaches itself to him, rubs his legs, asks to be petted and even jumps into his lap. He claims that cats know when you don't like them and do it just for spite. Is this true?"

I doubt very much if there is any element of spite involved. The late animal behaviorist Konrad Lorenz explained this phenomenon as one of territoriality. He said that people who like cats have in most cases been in fairly recent contact with a cat and therefore have cat scent on them. We may not detect it, but a cat will.

Since cats are very territorial, the scent of another cat warns them to take care and keep their distance, while a cat-hater who has no cat smell will be considered "unowned" and therefore open territory.

I really do not know if this is true or not, but I have watched a cat go straight to the person who least welcomed its attentions. A cat will also stray much more willingly into the garden of a neighbor who doesn't like cats than into the garden of a neighbor who has a cat or at least welcomes them.

Here again, the cat-hater's garden may appear to be "not taken" in the territorial sense, and the cat is not afraid to walk in and take possession. But the truth is that we simply do not know just what makes a cat choose one person over another.

Cats do go to a lot of effort marking their "property." That's what all that winding and twisting around people's legs is all about – with each pass the cat rubs its cheek bone against the person and a small scent gland marks that particular person as "personal property." Cats also mark furniture and, in the case of my cat, the refrigerator door and the door of the cupboard where the cat food is stored.

As for spiteful motives, as I said, I doubt it. Still, in most cases we can only guess at what is going on in an animal's mind.

The best that we can do is respect their ways and try to figure out as much as we can, because we would be poorer indeed without our animal companions.





هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأعلى

Is the sky really the limit?

By MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

In her ongoing search for the real essence of theater in general, and Israeli theater in particular, director Ofira Henig has tackled Gilad Evron's new play, *Sky* ("Shamayim"), which opens tomorrow at the Jerusalem Theater.

Henig, who opposes the mere idea of theater as pure entertainment and who demands that her audience think about important issues during and after her productions, argues that *Sky* deals with "the difference between theater and life, reality and imagination.

"And I'm thrilled to try and find an answer, to try and explore these differences. This is a play about theater within theater, a play that treads that fine line between life and reality."

The play calls for a neutral large stage which explains the collaboration of the Jerusalem Khan with the Jerusalem Theater.

"The Khan stage is very singular and I love it," she says, "but it is not right for this play. Here the space should change constantly through movement, light and music."

Sky tells the story of a director (Yigal Sadeh) who is hired by a nightclub owner (Motti Katz) to prepare some acts for him.

The director realizes that the only way to create a real show is to find new exciting things: circus acts, belly dancing, stand-up comedy and so forth. Then he finds a young lad (played by actress Naomi Frumowitz), with a celestial voice. However, one day before the premiere, the boy's voice breaks.

"The director has a decision to make," declares Henig, "and that decision is both moral and philosophical. What he realizes is that the only way to make theater is to put real people on stage, which is very similar to the state of Israeli theater nowadays.

"Our theater reads a headline in the newspaper and turns it into dramatic material. But this play does not relate only to our theater world, it also has to do with television and popular entertainment in which there are basically no rules and anything and everything goes.

"We are not awarding grades here, we are just presenting a situation in which anything is allowed to happen. In a society in which politicians and handicapped people are the stars of a talk-show, art has turned into a kind of a media, a television newspaper. And I'm fascinated by the mere question of how art manipulates those who watch it."

EVRON, whose previous successes include *Jehu* and *A Mountain Does Not Move*, "wrote a very Israeli play. But he has this great talent to write a play about us without putting on stage the man from next door."

Sky, which is the name of the nightclub in the play, says Henig, "questions our emotional limits. How far are we actually willing to go as artists and as a society in order to excite? Is there a moral to art? Or if we live in a world in which anyone can and does lie on an ongoing basis, can and should art and artists do the same?"

Henig herself believes that the reason our theater has turned into a kind of mirror of the daily news is that "we live in an intense and very violent society.

"Our society gives greater legitimization to violence and everything that happens today is influenced by this violence and by the fact that the rating seems to govern us all. It scares me and I don't want to be a part of it, but it seems everyone around me does exactly that."



Yigal Sadeh (center) and Motti Katz wonder what to do with their boy soprano (Naomi Frumowitz, left) when his voice breaks.

Organ transplants

CLASSICAL DISCS

By MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

Kay Johannsen's rendition of the six Bach organ sonatas (BWV 525-530) is majestic and tender, refined and grand, tender and dramatic. This new addition to the excellent Bach edition of *Hanssler Classic* (Hanssler Bach 99) is one of the most welcome titles in the series.

Johannsen is a fine master of the organ who uses all its might, wonder and larger-than-life presence and yet creates very delicate sound pictures through it.

Each of the sonatas here is performed with the right style, suggesting that the organ can be as revealing and probing an instrument as the harpsichord, for example. Johannsen's other volume (*Masterpieces from the Weimar Period*, Hanssler Bach 93) presents a selection of more festive, dramatic and extravagant works which portray the organ as the huge and impressive church instrument that it is.

Rosalyn Tureck's performance of the six Bach partitas (BWV 825-830) on the *Great Pianists of the 20th Century* series (Philips 456 977-2) is one of the more touching, engaging and perplexing renditions of these works.

In contrast to Tureck's most recent recordings of the Goldberg Variations, here we enjoy a much younger yet as revealing pianist, in a performance that is compelling and beguiling.

Even in her younger days, Tureck was the thinking man's pianist, but while the Goldberg Variations is a more analytical rendition, the partitas are performed from the heart rather than from the mind.

Tureck is a very individual pianist and her performance here is touching, penetrating and poetic.

Robert Hill plays Bach on the harpsichord as if he had an organ in front of him. Here is another musician who is well versed with the composer's literature and style and can project it with ease and delight on his keyboard.

In the *Sonatas for Violin and Harpsichord* (BWV 1014-1019, Hanssler Classic 122) he accompanies Dmitry Sitkovetsky on the violin in a sensitive and almost baroque-like rendition of the music. In contrast to the rather detached performance of Sitkovetsky in his solo-violin Bach album, Hill manages to take Sitkovetsky with him on a very determined and delicate reading of the music, not overdramatic or bombastic but rather touching. A disc to cherish.

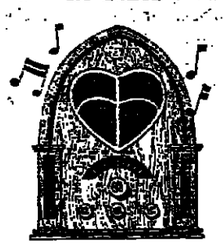
JUST as violinists and pianists approach Bach with fear and hesitation, so do cellists, and the new rendition of the solo cello suites by Boris Pergamenschikow (Hanssler Classic Bach 120) is rather disappointing.

There is no real feeling or involvement here or a sense that the fine cellist actually delves into the essence of the pieces. Rather he performs a detached and almost alienated version that lacks style and form on the one hand and baroque-like academism on the other.

Other cellists have done more justice to this music, suites and the composer.

Keep the 'Fanmail' coming

In Tune



By David Brinn

"The biggest-selling female trio of all time" doesn't quite have the same roll off the tongue as "the hardest-working man in show business," but TLC and James Brown have more in common than catchy monikers.

Fanmail, the American trio's long awaited followup to 1995's *Crazy Sexy Cool* which sold a cool 10 million copies, neatly bridges the gap between '70s Philly-style soul and funk, and '90s hip hop. Like they learned from the godfather of soul, the ladies, now in their mid-20s, perfect a percolating synthesis of radio-friendly r&b that skirts bad-girl rap but never abandons a prominent melodic and rhythmic base.

Named for the mail the group received since its last release, the disc sleeve is plastered with the names of thousands of devoted fans who wrote in postcards.

Hitmakers LA Reid and Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds provide the guidance and the tools, but they're smart enough to leave the women to their own devices – which include slinky hooks, a classic Prince-style syncopation and a tantalizing mix of sweet and sassy.

Too often though the band relies on an erotic dance groove at the expense of developing the material as they prove they can throughout the disc's 14 songs.

Highlights include the sing-along single "No Scrubs," soon to be a street catchword describing fellows who talk big but still live with their mothers, and "Don't Pull Out on Me Yet," a wonderfully lush '70s-styled finger-popping ballad.

"I'm Good at Being Bad" is a prime example of juxtaposing a smooth, seductive prelude with robust and rowdy verses. Not knowing which side reflects who TLC really is helps make *Fanmail* an alluring listen, which is occasionally marred by an underachiever's attitude.

FANMAIL – TLC
(Hed Artzi)

TEARS OF STONE –
The Chieftains
(Hed Artzi)

SONGS AND SOUNDS –
Pat Dinizio
(NMC)



Top-selling American trio TLC

NO matter what The Chieftains do, they come up smelling like roses – wild Irish roses.

The charming, indefatigable six-piece band that has for decades presented traditional Irish music in diverse settings set its sights on women and love on *Tears of Stone*. Each of the 14 songs, mostly made up of ballads that will have you crying in your Guinness mug, feature a world-renowned female vocalist collaborating with the band.

Ranging from Bonnie Raitt, Joni Mitchell, Natalie Merchant and Mary Chapin Carpenter to The Corrs and Joan Osborne, the guest artists sound naturally in tune to the telepathic empathy between the band members.

The only complaint is the shortage of upbeat Irish jigs and shanties, which the band excels at. But are you going to tell Joni Mitchell what to sing? The band, led by Paddy Moloney, put their egos aside and let the music flow to breathtaking effect. By evidence of *Tears of Stone*, after 35 years together The Chieftains are just warming up.

According to a Hed Artzi statement, local audiences can celebrate St. Patrick's Day a few months late when these living legends arrive here for shows between June 2 and 5, as part of the "Hear the World" Festival.

NOW for the sleeper of the week. Pat Dinizio was the founder and inspiration behind The Smithereens, potent melodic New York rockers who did their most groundbreaking work in the mid to late 1980s.

Slipping into semi-obscurity in recent years, Dinizio has placed the band on a hiatus and released his first solo album, *Songs and Sounds*, featuring the Pat Dinizio Foursome.

Not surprisingly the apple doesn't fall far from the tree and the music sounds a lot like The Smithereens, exceptionally crisp Smithereens at that. Dinizio has not lost any of his pop charm and the change in collaborators has apparently infused him with a new spark, harking back to his glory days.

The opening and closing tracks experiment with a smoky jazz-club sound typified by American Music Club's Mark Eitzel, but the rest is pure guitar-based power pop, with an Elvis Costello tint on the melodies and harmonies.

Produced by alternative rock veteran Don Dixon, Songs and Sound presents nothing earth-shattering, but Dinizio's distinctive meat-and-potatoes rock 'n' roll is still as tasty as ever.

NatGeo puts its money where its mouth is

By HELEN KAYE

National Geographic Television intends to spend $1.6 million annually on locally made documentaries for its TV programs here and (eventually) around the world. The announcement came from NatGeo chairman and CEO John Fahey, who was here last week for the official launch of the channel which has been operating on cable channels 17 and 19 since December.

Currently in English, the channel will go to a combination of Hebrew subtitles and dubbing by the beginning of April for all of its 19 hours on the air. The dubbed shows will be mostly for programs geared to the younger set on Saturday mornings. Saturdays and Sundays, NatGeo will be broadcasting 24 hours.

Local programming is also in the works. Programs under discussion include a weekly magazine program on a variety of subjects such as archeology.

Asked how the National Geographic Society, of which NGT is a part, would sift the expected rush of local documentary talent, Fahey said, smiling: "We're used to dealing with and screening ideas and talent from all over the world."

The idea of locally produced documentaries came from NatGeo's locally based John Pruzanski who put together "a package to show what local photographers can do, and they went for it. We'll do the preliminary screening here and then the most interesting ideas will go to Washington."

According to Tevel, NatGeo's local affiliate,the programs are now watched by 52.5% of the adult audience "and we expect that to increase once we make the switch to Hebrew," a spokesperson said.

Let me tell you 'bout my best friend

THEATER REVIEW

By NAOMI DOUDAI

Anat Gov's engaging one-act show is an overspill of the crackling wit and zesty humor which she lavished on her versions of the TV serial comedy *Zehu Zeh*. Like the latter, *Best Friends* is first and foremost hilarious entertainment.

'Best Friends'
(Haverot Hachi Tovot)
by Anat Gov.
Direction, Edna Mazia.
Cameri Theater
at ZOA House Tel Aviv.
March 4



Playwright Anat Gov

As such, it is rigged out in a series of eye-catching costumes, (Orna Smorgonsky), expressive lighting (Niv Sadeh) and rip-roaring racy dialogue that splash the senses with an unremitting onslaught of gay color and cheerful sound.

At a deeper dramatic level, the play deals with the trials and troubles of feminine friendships, especially those encapsuled in triangles. It approaches that more serious subject almost surreptitiously, invoking a psychological slant on the history of a lifetime of relationships between three old friends.

The theme is developed through three sets of doppelgangers (Meital Dohan, Michal Dvir, and Liat Glucki playing the teenage embodiment of the three mature women (Anat Waxman, Sara von Schwarze and Keren Mor). A novel device, it is managed with slick timing and diverting movement.

Structurally, however, the juxtaposition of youthful flashbacks and middle-aging tensions makes for a less than satisfactory development.

As to the characterizations, while endlessly amusing they seldom rise above caricatures. Only in the case of the two Sophies do they achieve any sort of depth.

Anat Waxman with a multiple range of moods gives a consummate performance as the sour, sceptical, older Sophie. As her younger surrogate, Meital Dohan presents a precocious, venomous version of the same persona with surprising subtlety and sophistication.



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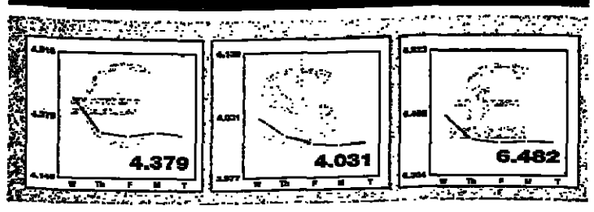
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Today's shekel



In brief

MKs ready to OK property-tax amendments

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit's proposal to abolish as of next year the basic property tax, while imposing a 2.5-percent sales tax on business properties. Selling contractors' new apartments will involve an 0.8% sales tax, which the seller will be allowed to deduct from his income, thus reducing his effective tax burden to 0.5% of the deal's worth. Currently contractors pay a 1.2% property tax.

Selling ordinary private apartments will not involve sales taxes, according to the proposals which now move on to the plenary for their final readings, before they become law. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Lehman buys, sells $34m. Leumi stake

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Lehman Brothers yesterday purchased another 1.45 percent of Bank Leumi from the government for $34.11 million, said Meir Yacobson, general manger of MI Holdings, the company in charge of selling the state's bank holdings.

It was the third time the US investment bank won a tender for a stake in Israel's second largest bank. As in the two preceding cases, shares were sold within hours to European institutional investors.

Lehman offered to pay NIS 6.68 per share, which is equivalent to the closing price on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange on Monday.

Two weeks ago, Lehman purchased in a similar block-trade tender of 2.5% of the bank for $51.54m., representing a value base of NIS 5.82 per share, at that time 2.4% below the market value on the TASE.

Since then, however, Leumi rose sharply, thus igniting a broader surge TASE share prices.

Lehman's offer beat out lower bids from Goldman Sachs & Co., which offered 1.6% less, and local investment houses Gmul Sahar Securities and IBI Securities, together with Poalim Investments. Merill Lynch and UBS Securities did not submit an offer.

The Knesset Finance Committee last year approved the sale of up to 4% of Bank Leumi 1999, but MI Holdings first decided to sell only 2.5%, and only after seeing the market's positive response proceeded with the remainder.

Yacobson said the decision not to sell the entire 4% all at once was aimed at breathing life into the listless stock market. "The sale was the trigger for the recent rise of the TASE," he said. "We decided to sell the remaining stake now following requests from international investment houses that expressed much interest in the bank."

The government, whose stake in Leumi has now shrunk to 41%, initially planned to sell a controlling stake later this year, but ultimately the sale was not included in the privatization plan for 1999. It is widely believed that the Treasury will not take any steps in this direction until the sale of the government's holdings in Israel Discount Bank is completed.

Yacobson said that the deal is the last of its kind, and the government intends to sell the remaining shares in one block as part of the sale of a controlling interest in the bank.

Lehman Brothers, which in 1994 became the first large US investment house to open an office in Tel Aviv, has expanded its activity here by acquiring stakes in various local firms.

The first step was taken a year ago when it invested NIS 40m. in the institutional offering of Bezeq.

In the past, Lehman's activity here was limited to acting as an underwriter and adviser to local companies and the government.

The company administered the sale of Bank Leumi shares to institutional investors abroad and managed bond flotations for Israel Electric Corp. and Koor Industries.

Ports Authority drops reform to end strike

Jerusalem Post Staff

The stevedores' strike, which crippled marine commercial traffic intermittently for the past four weeks, ended yesterday after representatives of the strikers, the Histadrut, and the Ports Authority reached a tentative agreement the previous night.

The settlement included the latter's retreat from its intention to launch a planned reorganization that was to include layoffs and a system of performance-based incentives.

According to the interim agreement, Port Authority employees will receive 4.5 percent advance compensation for wage erosion since 1997. The sides will continue negotiating over a wage rise for the current year.

The business and industrial sectors lost an aggregate $50 million during the strike, according to Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper.

Throughout the strike the Shipowners Association, the Manufacturers Association, and the Chambers of Commerce exerted pressure on the government to end it. Propper wrote a letter to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu saying the government's inaction was "regrettable" at a time "when one of the economy's most indispensable infrastructures is being damaged."

Propper suggested that, as a long-term remedy, the Ports Authority Law be changed so that the sea ports be privatized "in the spirit of the government's policy."

Chambers of Commerce president Dan Gillerman warned the strike's organizers that his organization will sue them for what he assesses as NIS 30 million in daily damages.

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz participated personally in the five-hour negotiation that led to the strike's end. It remains unclear what role the government played in the Ports Authority's retreat from its reform plan.

Sony unveils sweeping cutback plan

Electronics giant to fold 20% of plants, fire 17,000 staff

By GARY SCHAEFER

TOKYO (Bloomberg) – Sony Corp., the world's second-biggest consumer electronics company, will spend $2.7 billion to buy out three subsidiaries, part of a sweeping reorganization to arrest sliding profits that also includes trimming 10 percent of its staff and closing 15 of 70 factories.

The maker of PlayStation video games and Trinitron televisions said it will reorganize by year's end into three autonomous business groups run from Tokyo. In a first step, Sony will buy the shares it doesn't own in Sony Music Entertainment, its music and video game subsidiary, and two other publicly traded affiliates, President Nobuyuki Idei said.

The reorganization is the most ambitious yet by a Japanese company and caused Sony shares to vault 8.9% in Tokyo trading. It may help the 53-year-old company shift its focus from televisions and other basic consumer electronics – where fierce competition has eroded profits – to more sophisticated computerized products that offer higher margins such as the coming successor to its best-selling PlayStation video game player.

"The electronics business has been deteriorating," said Masayoshi Morimoto, senior vice president at Sony Corp. "We need to act quickly." The staff cuts, most of which will come at overseas operations, include the closure of a television plant in Stuttgart, Germany, a Sony official said. Sony had 6.8 trillion yen ($60b.) of sales in the year ending last March from businesses that also include a Hollywood movie studio and one of the world's biggest music companies, including such artists as Mariah Carey and Lauryn Hill.

"Significant staff reductions... show that Sony is taking a fairly radical attitude toward restructuring," said Andrew Haskins, an analyst at HSBC Securities (Japan) Ltd. The move follows a 19% fall in third-quarter operating profit and is designed to allow the company to integrate technologies and to create a more streamlined management structure.

"Sony is trying to position itself for the 21st Century," said Sony Chairman Norio Ohga, 69.

Joining Sony's new electronics business group is Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., a jointly owned subsidiary of Sony and Sony Music that produces the PlayStation. Sony Computer unveiled plans last week for the PlayStation's successor, and the present reorganization may reflect Sony's intention to integrate the cutting-edge technology developed for that machine into other applications.

"Electronics has evolved to the point where the most promising business opportunities are in integrating technologies," said Satoshi Hirachi, an analyst at Societe Generale Securities (North Pacific) Ltd. "Bringing together these subsidiaries makes it easier for Sony to do that."

The company is looking ahead to the adoption of legislation that will offer tax benefits to companies that file taxes on a consolidated basis, he said. Idei, Sony's president for four years, is an advocate of decentralized management, which he calls a "unified dispersed" structure similar to that of the US's General Electric Co.

Yet analysts suggested yesterday's announcement was motivated more by the recent deterioration in Sony's earnings. The company was forced to cut its full-year profit forecast a second time in January and said it planned to reduce its employees and scale back its global production capacity to improve profitability.

"Over the last nine months or so, earnings prospects have deteriorated sharply, and there was a certain feeling among analysts and investors that Sony had been slow to react to the strengthening of the yen and the severe pressures on its business in many developing economies," said HSBC's Haskins. This is "a sign that Sony listened to some of the concerns and wanted to show it was responding," he said.

The plan calls for Sony to cut its group workforce 10%, eliminating 17,000 jobs from its 170,000-person staff by March 2003. As part of the plan, Sony will reduce its manufacturing facilities worldwide to 55 from 70 by March 2003.

Sony shares rose 890 yen to close at 10,940 on strong buying by overseas investors, who already own about 40% of the company. Its shares have risen 33% this year. Sony was the most active stock by value on Japanese exchanges, accounting for more than a quarter of the gains in the benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average, which rose 2.15% to 15,096.70, a three-month high.

"This is what the foreign investors have been looking for," said Geoffrey Bennett, portfolio manager at Windham Pacific Japan Fund. "They're hitting all the correct buttons."

Sony Music Entertainment rose 1,000 yen, or 14%, to 8,250. Sony Precision rose 300 yen, or 17%, to 2,030. Sony Chemicals rose 500 yen, or 10%, to 5,250. All rose by their daily limit.

In all, Sony will pay about 332b. yen for the outstanding shares in the three affiliates. Under the terms of the purchase agreements, Sony Music shareholders will get 0.835 of a Sony share for each Sony Music share they own. Japan's largest record company last week slashed its parent-company earning forecast by 94%, citing delays in new releases by its top domestic artists.

Sony Music and Sony each own about 49% of Sony Computer, whose next-generation PlayStation is expected to strengthen Sony's grip on the home video game market. Sony will also buy the rest of Sony Chemicals Corp., a magnetic tape maker, and Sony Precision Technology Inc., which produces linear scales and sensors.

Sony Chemicals shareholders will get 0.565 of a Sony share in a transaction valued at 56.39b. yen, or 5,678 a share, a 19.5% premium to its close on Monday.

Sony Precision shareholders will receive 0.203 of a Sony share, valuing the purchase at 12.25b. yen, or 2,040 a share.

Merrill Lynch & Co. acted as an adviser to Sony in the transactions, among the first Japanese acquisitions arranged by a foreign brokerage house, Merrill Lynch said. Morgan Stanley Dean Witter advised Sony's subsidiaries.

The restructuring plan is the most far-reaching yet announced by a Japanese company as the world's second-largest economy struggles to pull itself out of its deepest recession in more than 50 years.

The move will likely prompt other manufacturers to consider more dramatic cost-cutting proposals than have already been announced, analysts said.

"It's got to the stage where every company feels obliged to come out with some sort of restructuring," said Garry Evans, a strategist at HSBC Securities (Japan) Ltd. "Sony has been the leader of the pack. It's done all sorts of things that are way above what other companies have looked at."

In the past year, more than 100 companies, from financial institutions to retailers, have announced the sale or closing of divisions, the closing of factories, cuts in personnel by attrition and mergers with Japanese or foreign companies.

Most have no choice. After expanding too fast in the late 1980s and early 1990s, manufacturers ranging from Nippon Steel Co. to Mitsubishi Oil Co. are reining in overseas operations, closing affiliates and looking for partners to invest in or take over unprofitable businesses. For Sony, the restructuring is also a step toward setting up a holding company in the future, officials said.



Sony Chairman Norio Ohga, left, and President Nobuyuki Idei, addressing the media in Tokyo Monday. (AP)

Vsoft, Japanese firm ink distribution agreement

By NICKY BLACKBURN

Vsoft, a specialist in innovative video on demand (VOD) software products, has signed a distribution agreement worth several million dollars with Japanese company Hoei Sangyo.

Under the terms of the agreement, which was arranged by Triangle Technologies, Hoei Sangyo, one of Japan's leading distributors of hardware, software, and recording media will become Vsoft's non-exclusive distributor in Japan.

Yokne'am-based Vsoft, which had sales of more than $1.5 million in 1998, employs 35 people, 17 of which are in R&D.

Hoei Sangyo has an annual turnover of $130m.

"The Japanese market is a strategic one for Vsoft due to the strength of the digital video industry there," said Meir Friedlander, Vsoft's CEO. "The agreement with Hoei Sangyo is Vsoft's first business relationship in Japan and gives us excellent access to Japanese broadcast studios and professional video production houses."

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The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption
Tel Aviv Region Employment Department

invites new immigrants to a

Seminar for New Immigrant Musicians

Tuesday, March 23, 1999 at 3 p.m:
at Beit Daniel, 62 Rehov B'nei Dan, Tel Aviv.

Program:

3:00–3:30 Registration
3:30–3:45 Greetings: Yolanda Strauss – Director, Tel Aviv Region
Innes Sha'aya – Coordinator of Artists, Tel Aviv Region
3:45–4:15 "Absorption of Immigrants through Israeli Music" – Paul Landau, The Institute of Israeli Music
4:15–4:45 Intermission – registration for workshops
4:45–6:00 "A Look at the World of Israeli Art" – Ehud Manor, Israel Prize Laureate, 1998
6:00–6:45 "Initiatives in the Field of Music" – The Center for Encouraging Entrepreneurship, Tel Aviv
6:45–7:00 Summary and distribution of questionnaire for comments

Organized transportation will be available for those registering by March 11, 1999 at one of the following

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Rehovot	Hedva	08-945-7284

For further details, please call Ines Sha'aya on 03-527-0863.

Tecnomatix in strategic deal with US software giant PTC

By NICKY BLACKBURN

Tecnomatix Technologies and Parametric Technology Corporation (PTC) of Waltham, Massachusetts, have reached a strategic technology and marketing agreement which could help the Herzliya-based maker of computer-aided production engineering software back on track after a difficult 1998.

PTC, which develops, supports, and markets worldwide integrated product development and process life cycle management solutions, had a turnover of just over $1 billion last year.

The deal, which has been been agreed to in principle, will integrate PTC's Windchill product information management system, and Tecnomatix's new Digital Factory solution to provide a complete solution for managing product and process data.

In addition, it will open up a whole range of new markets for Tecnomatix, a pioneer in computer aided engineering market, in heavy industry, electronics, and other industries, areas which the company has been exploring over the last year.

Last year, Tecnomatix, saw profits drop from $12.7 million in 1997 on sales of $59m., to $10.5m. on sales of $68.3m.

The reason, according to Tali Idan, Tecnomatix's CFO, was the combination of a decline in large deals from the automotive industry (the company's main market), weakness in US operations, and heavy investment in the company's sales force in an attempt to find new markets.

"Parametric is a large company and it is strong in all the new markets we have been exploring. It will definitely help us penetrate them," said Idan. "The agreement will increase our future revenues significantly."

By integrating PTC's Windchill system with Digital Factory, the two companies will be able to provide seamless product/process information management. They will also be able to share information across product design and production engineering, a process that will shorten manufacturers' time to market.

"This partnership will be significant to manufacturers worldwide who believe their competitive advantage is gained through effective management of product and process life cycles," said Steven Walske, chairman and CEO of PTC.

"It is also significant to PTC because Tecnomatix is endorsing the Windchill Web-centric approach to product and process lifecycle management by integrating its Process Model and CAPE applications with our platform."

"The combined offering will create new opportunities for companies worldwide by linking process models to product data," said Harel Beit-On, president and CEO of Tecnomatix. He added that the agreement will expose Tecnomatix to a wider international customer base.

Tecnomatix will be the first company to license Windchill from PTC. Both companies intend to market products resulting from the partnership.

The deal should be finalized within a month.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Sony boosts Nikkei • Gold soars on yuan weakness

SHARES

TEL AVIV

Shares fell yesterday, with Bezeq leading declines after it said it expects to lose money in 2001, because the government wants to force it to reduce prices.

Bank Leumi led gains after the government sold a stake in the nation's second-largest bank to Lehman Brothers, which sold the shares to its clients (See story, Page 12)

The Maof Index of the largest 25 stocks fell 0.51 percent to 342.38 after losing 0.02% yesterday.

Bank Leumi gained 1.65% to NIS 6.79, after the sale of 1.45% of the bank by assets to Lehman Brothers.

Bezeq dropped 1.69% to NIS 13.96. The state-run telephone company said profit will be cut by NIS 620 million this year and by NIS 100m. if the government forces it cut prices and spend on improving efficiency.

Workers are planning to protest the recommendations, which they believe may lead to firings, Israel Radio reported.

Elbit Medical Imaging rose 0.73% to NIS 41.60. Orna Berry, the government's chief scientist, told Israel Radio that she night not approve the sale of control over the company to Moti Zisser (See story, Page 15.)

Elbit Medical dropped 17% in three days last week after investors discovered Zisser wouldn't use its cash to expand technology holdings. Super-Sol fell 1.76% to NIS 10.58.

The country's largest supermarket chain is expected to announce fourth-quarter net income in 1998 declined about 16% compared with the quarter in 1997, as a slower economy prompted consumers to hold back on spending for food.

EUROPE

European stocks rose and bonds fell in sluggish trading yesterday following a surge in key Asian bourses and a fall in German unemployment. The dollar held above 121 yen.

Pan-European stock indices were about 0.6% higher following gains of more than 2% in Tokyo and Hong Kong.

But shares came off their best levels amid expectations of a mixed opening in New York following Monday's record close on the S&P 500 index.

London traders said US stocks looked set for a mixed opening as the market paused for breath. The S&P March future contract traded one point below its estimated fair value of 1,284.3, signalling a slightly negative start for the Dow Jones Industrial Average.

A profit warning from computer chip maker Advanced Micro Devices Inc late on Monday was not going to help sentiment, they said.

Frankfurt's Xetra DAX index rose 0.6% amid gains in chemicals makers, London's FTSE 100 rose 0.5% and the Paris CAC 40 advanced nearly 0.2%.

The FTSE moved within 0.5% of its record high in quiet activity amid expectations that British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown would not deliver any nasty surprises for investors when he unveils the UK's new budget.

ASIA

Tokyo stocks closed 2% higher, powered by news of restructuring moves by electronics giant Sony Corp that aim to consolidate its businesses and cut its workforce by 10%.

Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei Index climbed 317.65 points to end at 15,096.70, rising above 15,000 for the first time since last November.

Shares in Sony Corp ended up 8.86% after the electronics giant announced it would reduce its workforce by 10% over the next four years and make three affiliates wholly owned units in a bid to revive its flagging profitability.

Other stocks rode Sony's coattails higher. "The whole market is moving on the Sony effect," said a trader at a medium-sized securities house.

Hong Kong's key Hang Seng index finished at 10,532.95, boosted by positive sentiment generated by Microsoft Corp's plan to cooperate with Hongkong Telecom and the government's Cyberport project, brokers said.

But the Microsoft interest in Hong Kong was unlikely to generate significant new earning avenues in the medium term, and the market was expected to follow Wall Street's near-term trend, they said.

Australia's All Ordinaries Index ended down 8.8 points at 2,920.8 as cautious investors consolidated recent gains.

WALL STREET

Stocks fell yesterday as the bullish effect from last week's record-setting run faded and investors tempered their enthusiasm about pushing the Dow Jones industrial average toward the 10,000 mark.

Based on early, unofficial data, the Dow ended down 33.85 points at 9,693.76 after an initial wave of buying sparked a gain of more than 70 points.

In the broader market, declining issues led advances 16 to 13 on active volume of 792 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The technology-laced Nasdaq composite index was off 4.68 points at 2,392.94.

"I don't know how enthused everyone is to take things that much higher right away," said Arthur Hogan, chief market analyst at Jefferies & Co.

While the Dow had climbed into record territory earlier in the day, traders said they detected jitters seeping into the market.

"I think in the back of people's minds there is still some nervousness and it may not be straight up to 10,000 for the Dow," said Jim Macko, senior vice president of trading at McDonald & Co.

In economic news, the government reported that 1998 fourth-quarter productivity posted its biggest quarterly gain in seven years.

The Labour Department said that productivity, measuring the amount of goods and services that workers produce per hour, grew by 4.6 percent in the quarter ended in December.

The news triggered a jump in the inflation-sensitive bond market. The key 30-year Treasury bond was up nearly a full point, which lowered the yield to 5.53 percent from 5.60 percent on Monday.

The stock of RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp. ended with a loss of 1/16 at 28-9/16 after the maker of Camel cigarettes said it will sell its international tobacco business for $8 billion and spin off its domestic tobacco business.

The move, which follows a slew of litigation in the domestic tobacco industry and shareholder pressure within RJR, could be followed by other industry giants. Philip Morris was up 1/2 at 39-7/8.

The trouble for technology stocks began before the market opened, as microchip maker Advanced Micro Devices said late Monday that it expected a "significant" first-quarter loss because of production problems with its best line of microprocessors, and that it will cut 300 jobs over the next six months.

AMD shares sank 1 7/16 to 17 1/2. Other technology stocks were better behaved in late morning, but succumbed in early afternoon to worries that AMD may not be alone in expecting poor earnings.

Rumors circulated that Intel, for example, would also report disappointing first-quarter results. Intel's stock was down 4 5/16 to 115 5/16, after advancing 5 points on Monday following the microchip maker's settlement of antitrust charges with the Federal Trade Commission. A call to Intel was not returned.

The Intel rumors caused a general retrenchment in technology stocks, which on Monday recovered from a down week last week to lead the broad market higher.

TRADING FLOORS



Maof 342.38 ▼ 0.51%

Dow Jones 9693.76 ▼ 0.35%

FTSE 6237.70 ▲ 0.47%

Nikkei 15096.70 ▲ 2.15%

CURRENCIES

The dollar fell against the yen for a third day as a rise in Japanese bond yields could speed the pace of repatriation before Japan's March 31 fiscal year-end.

Japanese exporters are already bringing home earnings from overseas and converting them to yen to boost profits. Rising bond yields could coax them to repatriate even more by making domestic investments more attractive.

"If long-term yields go up, we'll see investors pulling money out of the US and putting it in Japan, especially before March 31," said Rainer Guidon, foreign exchange manager at Erste Bank. "We could see a pullback [in the dollar] to 118.50" yen before the end of the month.

The dollar fell to 121.43 yen from 121.86 late Monday in New York. It was little changed at $1.0887 per euro from $1.0888.

The yield on Japan's benchmark No. 203 bond maturing in 2008 rose 7 basis points to 1.7% after Bank of Japan Governor Masaru Hayami suggested interest rates may rise.

In other trading, the dollar could resume its rise against the euro this week on speculation the European Central Bank's reticence to cut interest rates will impede economic recovery in the euro region.

COMMODITIES

GOLD

Gold jumped more than 1% to its highest price this year as speculation that China will devalue its currency caused local investors to buy gold as a store of value.

China denied a report by IDEA, a consultancy, that the government set up a committee to determine the timing of a devaluation. Still, mounting concern helped spur an outflow of funds large enough to prompt China to raise interest rates for US dollar savings by almost one percentage point.

"Every time there is any kind of currency crisis, it's good news for gold," said Tony Cadle, an analyst at Rice Rinaldi Turner & Co. in Johannesburg.

Gold for immediate delivery rose as much as $4.10, or 1.4%, to $294.15 an ounce, its highest price in London trading since December 17. In New York, April gold futures gained as much as $2.60, or 0.8%, to $295.30 an ounce on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Gold was also buoyed by a stronger yen, which gained for the third straight day today against the dollar, making gold cheaper to buyers in Japan.

ENERGY

Crude oil was little changed as members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries differed on whether another cut in output is needed to lift prices.

Saudi Arabia and Iran, the group's two biggest members, have said OPEC must add to cuts made last year to lift prices, which have fallen 35% over the past 18 months. Yet Venezuela, the third-largest producer, said it will make no more cuts, as other members have yet to cut all they pledged last year. OPEC meets March 23 in Vienna.

Crude oil for April delivery rose 9 cents to $13.72 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, April Brent crude was up 4 cents at $11.80 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange.

(News Agencies)

DILBERT
By Scott Adams



Casino Bonds seem better bet as increased sales loom

MARKETWATCH

By LEE THEODOROS

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) – Jupiters Ltd., Australia's No. 1 casino operator, joined the rush of at least nine US gambling companies taking advantage of low interest rates and good investor demand to sell junk bonds.

Coast Hotels and Casinos Inc. and Waterford Gaming LLC are slated to sell in coming weeks. They'd follow borrowers ranging from Connecticut's Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority to Las Vegas-based Circus Circus Enterprises Inc. which tapped the bond market recently. Almost $3 billion of junk-rated casino bonds were sold or scheduled since November.

"That's just the tip of the iceberg," said Richard Byrne, gaming analyst at Merrill Lynch & Co. He said the number of sales "could double in the first half of this year alone" from the $2b. to $3b. annual rate of the past four years.

As investor demand builds, many companies are taking advantage of lower rates to refinance existing bonds with interest rates as high as 13.5%.

It's "the year of the refinancing," said Lawrence Klatzkin, senior vice-president and gaming analyst at Jefferies & Company Inc. After a lull in casino company borrowing broke late last year, there's a sense now "that the market has value," Klatzkin said. "You can see that people are more confident in these companies by the bonds that are trading below 9 percent."

At March 1, about 15 companies' high-yield bonds were yielding less than 9%, or about 370 basis points more than 10-year government bonds. That down from 12 and 13% many companies paid on bonds sold in the early 1990s. Mohegan, which runs the Mohegan Sun Casino in Montville, for example, recently replaced 13.5% debt with 8 3/4 and 8 1/8 percent bonds.

As the sales pace quickens, investors say they're increasingly comfortable with low-rated casino companies that just a few years ago were struggling to get their businesses off the ground. The average spread between casino bonds and Treasuries has narrowed to 487 basis points from 533 at year-end and 396 at the end of 1997.

High yields and better returns are part of the allure, investors said. The total return on gaming company bonds was about 3.6 percent the past year, more than twice the 1.5% for all junk bonds, according to Merrill Lynch & Co. indexes.

Gaming bond prices fell about 6.7% in the year, in line with the junk bond average, though the gaming return was higher because the bonds paid higher interest rates.

The strong US economy and high employment are helping the gambling business at the same time as a slowdown in the number of new casinos sprouting in crowded gambling centers such as Las Vegas and Atlantic City allayed investors concerns about a glut.

Casino companies "have surprised investors for the better" said Dan Johnedis, who manages about $200m. of high-yield debt at Baring Asset Management in Boston.

Johnedis said he's bought casino bonds for years because "I like the basics of the industry; they have plenty of assets and they're resilient to what's happening in this economy and to what happens overseas." Expectations that some smaller companies may be bought by larger rivals helped some bonds, including those of Aztar Corp., operator of the Tropicana casinos in Atlantic City, New Jersey and Las Vegas, and riverboat casino operator Argosy Gaming Co.

Park Place Entertainment Corp., based in Las Vegas and Memphis-based Harrah's Entertainment Inc., the worlds' two largest casino companies, say they're keen for more acquisitions.

Inglewood, California-based Hollywood Park Inc., which increased its bond sale 30% last month to $350m., also is snapping up companies, including Casino Magic Corp. in October 1998.

Among more recent sales, Jupiters, which runs the Jupiter Casino and Hotel Conrad in Australia's Queensland state and is borrowing to repay bank loans, sold $135m. of seven-year notes at 8.625%. The notes quickly rose almost 1 5/8 points to 101, lowering the yield to 8.31%.

Jupiters' debt is rated "Ba1" by Moody's Investors Service and "BB+" by Standard & Poor's Corp. – just one notch below investment grade.

"Right now, gaming is considered relatively safe," said Steve Michaels, who manages about $650m. of bonds at Financial Management Advisors in Los Angeles, and owns casino bonds including Mohegan, Station Casinos and Hollywood Park.

That sentiment, teamed with a good location and better-than-anticipated earnings helped the Mohegan Indians of Connecticut boost a February bond sale by 40% to $500m. Bankers said there was still five times more demand as there were bonds.

It wasn't always the case though, said Jayne Fawcett, vice chairman of Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority. In 1996, when the casino opened "we had very few alternatives to get up and running and I guess some of the conditions were not perceived as ideal," she said.

Mohegan, whose profit rose 44% last year to $217m., "has since shown investors that it's a very good bet." That helped it borrow $500m. last month to repay some high- interest debt and build a hotel that will make it more competitive with Foxwoods Resort Casino, based about 16 km. away. Since the sale, the 10-year bonds rose almost 3 points to yield 8.31%, according to Bloomberg analytics.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

TEL AVIV 100 LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Advanced Technology Ltd.	1862.0	0.0
Africa Israel Hotels	550.0	0.4
Africa Israel Inv (1985)	22000.0	3.8
Africa Israel Inv (1985)	188600.0	2.3
Agis Industries (1983) Ltd.	2030.0	-1.5
American Israeli Paper Mills	15180.0	1.0
Azorim Properties	782.0	1.6
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	3500.0	0.0
Bezeq	1396.0	-1.7
Blue Square Chain Investments and Properties Limited	5300.0	-3.3
Baran	3160.0	-3.1
Dead SEA Bromine	2690.0	-1.1
Bayside Land Corp.	48000.0	0.0
Bayside Land Corp.	230000.0	0.0
Israel Chemicals Limited	423.0	-1.4
Clal Electronics Inds Ltd.	66800.0	-0.1
Clal Israel Limited	9800.0	-1.7
Clal Industries and Investments	2150.0	0.9
Clal Insurance	3960.0	0.0
DAN Hotels Corp. Ltd.	707.0	0.0
Delta-Galil Industries Ltd.	4000.0	0.0
Discount Investment Corp.	13260.0	-1.9
Dankner	2150.0	0.0
Delek Automotive Systems Ltd.	882.0	-1.5
Delek Israel Fuel Corp. Ltd.	11680.0	-0.8
Discount Mortgage Bank Ltd.	20300.0	1.0
Darban	593.0	0.3
Israel Discount Bank	390.0	2.9
Dead SEA Works Limited	936.0	-1.6
JEC	1740.0	-0.8
Elbit Ltd	1558.0	0.4
Elco Holdings Limited	2150.0	4.8
Elite Industries Ltd.	3060.0	2.0
Elite Industries Ltd.	15060.0	0.2
Electra Consumer Products	3030.0	0.0
Elco Industries Ltd	3400.0	-1.4
Elron Electronic Inds	7020.0	1.0
El-Rov (Israel) Ltd	1768.0	1.5
Electra (Israel) Ltd	18800.0	-0.5
Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd	4160.0	0.7
Elbit Systems Ltd.	5500.0	-0.9
Europe Israel	3040.0	-3.5
Fibi Holdings Ltd.	3080.0	-1.3
First International Mortgage Bank Limited	38500.0	0.0
Formula Systems (1985) Ltd.	10280.0	-1.9
First International Bank Of Israel	465.0	0.4
First International Bank Of Israel	2340.0	0.0
Israel General Bank	9500.0	2.4
Granite Hacarmel Investments	460.0	0.0
Harel (Israel-Canada) Limited	1390.0	6.9
Hadarim Propert	8500.0	6.4
Harel Insurance Investments Limited	3590.0	4.4
Harel Insurance Investments Limited	17830.0	-0.1
Home Centers (Diy) Ltd	3890.0	0.0
Housing & Construction Holdings Limited	283.0	-2.7
Industrial Buildings Corp	535.0	-1.8
IDB Development Corp Ltd.	10080.0	-0.1
IDB Bank Holding Corp Ltd.	9680.0	-0.5
The Israel Corp. Limited	39800.0	-1.5
The Israel Land Development	2158.0	-1.8
Isras Ltd	633.0	0.0
Jafora	735.0	-6.8
Kitan Consolidated	415.0	1.2
Knafaim	4320.0	0.5
Koor Industries Limited	42200.0	0.5
Leumi Mortgage Bank Ltd.	74000.0	0.0
Liraz	3230.0	2.2
Leumi Insurance Holdings	237.0	-1.7
Bank Leumi Le-Israel	679.0	1.5
Makhteshim-Agan Industries Limited	885.0	-3.7
Ma'ariv Holdings Ltd.	3160.0	0.0
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	5340.0	2.3
Mehadrin Ltd.	12550.0	-0.4
Mayanot Eden	1620.0	0.0
Mishkan Hapoalim Mortgage Bk	67100.0	0.0
Melisron	1060.0	-1.9
Maman Cargo Terminals & Hand	548.0	0.0
Menorah Holdings Ltd	1771.0	0.0
United Mizrahi Bank Ltd.	797.0	-0.7
Nice Systems Ltd.	11750.0	0.3
Nisko Holdings (1995) Limited	1500.0	0.7
Ofer Development & Investments Limited	1237.0	-0.7
Otzar Hityashvuth Hayehudim	30.5	-2.2
Ormat Industries	480.0	-2.0
Osem Investment Limited	1985.0	-0.6
Israel Phoenix Assurance Co.	843.0	-3.1
Plasson	4700.0	0.0
Poalim Investments Limited	12670.0	-1.7
Point of Sale Limited	3250.0	-1.5
Bank Hapoalim Ltd.	906.0	0.0
Property & Building Corp.	35700.0	0.3
Israel Petrochemical Enterpr.	2150.0	-1.8
Israel Salt Industries	1900.0	0.0
Solel Boneh Building & Infrastructure Ltd.	3870.0	0.8
Super-Sol Limited	1058.0	-1.8
Teva Pharmaceutical	17630.0	-0.1
Tefahot Israel Mortgage Bank	194000.0	-0.5
Tambour Ltd.	527.0	2.1
Tempo	1585.0	0.0
Ytong Industries	920.0	0.0

RETZEF SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
A.M.L.D. Limited	899.0	2.3
Abjac Mazal	1.6	0.0
Abudi Signs Industry Ltd.	42.8	0.0
Ackerstein Industries	449.0	1.1
Ackerstein ZVI	1650.0	3.2
Ackerstein ZVI	8300.0	3.1
Adgar Investment and Development Limited	220.0	0.0
Adgar Investment and Development Limited	21.5	-2.3
Adiba Developing Investments & Promotion Ltd.	124.0	3.8
Adumim Chemicals Ltd.	310.0	0.0
Advantech Holdings Ltd.	71.0	0.0
Afcon Control and Automation Limited	187.0	0.6
Afcon Control and Automation Limited	680.0	4.6
Afek	204.0	0.0
Africa Israel Hotels	65.0	-4.5
AFSK	874.0	0.0
Agis Industries (1983) Ltd.	220.0	0.0
Agri Invest Ltd.	430.0	0.0
Albad Massuot Yitzhak Limited	2420.0	7.8
Albany Sonded Limited	49.5	0.0
Al-Bon Property & Investment	149.9	0.0
Alliance Tire Co. (1992) Ltd.	590.0	0.0
Aloni Hetz Properties & Inv	475.0	0.0
Aloni Hetz Properties & Inv	102.0	7.1
Alumayer Ltd.	280.0	0.0
Alumit Packaging Ltd.	2100.0	0.0
Amanet Management & Systems	888.0	4.5
Amgar	209.0	0.0
Analyst I.M.S.	879.0	0.0
Applicom	2330.0	0.4
Arad	1550.0	6.9
Arad Towels	1330.0	-4.3
Arazim Financial Services & Investment Limited	140.0	0.0
Argaman Industries	139.1	0.0
Arledan Properties Ltd.	1212.0	0.0
Arpal Aluminum Systems Limited	135.0	0.0
Aryt Industries Ltd.	99.0	-2.5
Ashkelon Plywood	465.0	-9.5
Ashlad	490.0	0.0
Ashot-Ashkelon Industries Limited	270.0	-0.7
Ashtrom Industries Ltd.	550.0	0.0
Ashtrom Projects	280.0	7.7
Ashtrom Projects	30.0	0.0
Ashtrom Properties	183.5	0.5
Ashtrom Properties	19.5	12.1
Aspen Building & Development Ltd.	437.0	-2.7
Aspen Properties (1990) Limited	136.6	0.0
Aspen Real Estate Ltd.	318.0	0.0
Atlon	75.0	0.0
Atmor Industries (1973) Ltd.	1198.0	-2.0
ATX Export Ltd.	170.0	-0.1
Azmauth	53000.0	0.0
Atzmon	180.0	0.0
Aura Investments Res & Devel	4480.0	-0.9
Averbuch Formica Center Ltd.	600.0	0.0
Aviation Links Ltd.	1132.0	0.0
Avner Oil & Gas Ltd.	3.5	6.1
Ayalon Holdings	903.0	0.0
Azimuth Ltd.	494.0	2.9
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	495.0	0.0
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	581.0	-6.3
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	587.0	-2.4
Balantine	143.5	0.0
Bank Adanim Mortgage & Loans	321400.0	0.0
Bank Leumi Le-Israel	73.3	4.7
Bank of Jerusalem	195.0	0.0
BAR	333.0	0.0
BAR SOL	108.7	0.0
Barad	230.0	0.0
Baranowitz	880.0	9.8
Barkan Wine Cellars	682.0	0.0
Bertal	220.0	0.0
Baumel Moshe	183.5	0.0
Bayside Land Corp.	1800.0	0.0
Beit Shemesh	1776.0	2.0
Beltron Investment Limited	3680.0	0.0
Belmon-Nurit Ltd.	360.0	0.0
Ben Yakar Gat	4300.0	0.0
Betil	289.0	0.0
Bezeq	408.0	-3.1
Blu Enterprises (H.C) Limited	2020.0	0.0
Binar	260.0	0.0
Binyan Investment Co. Ltd.	1332.0	4.4
Biri	262.0	0.0
Birman Wood Industries-1982	151.8	0.0
Bonei Tichon	499.0	0.0
Bonjour	635.0	7.8
Boulous Gad	257.0	0.0
Boulous Gad	23.0	0.0
Boulous Granite & Marble Ltd.	130.0	-0.1
Brand	84.1	0.0
Brill Shoe Industries Ltd.	37.0	0.0
Brookside Investments Ltd.	14.3	0.0
Brosh	105.0	6.1
C Holdings	290.0	7.4
Caniel	2210.0	0.9
Canyokol	30.0	0.0
Caprice Jewellery (1985) Limited	280.0	3.7
Caprice Jewellery (1985) Limited	57.0	0.0
Carmel Mortgage & Invest Bnk	469.0	2.9
Castro Model Limited	530.0	0.0
Catalena	431.0	0.0
Caesaria Land & Resort Ltd.	6580.0	0.0
Cementcal	228.0	0.0
Central Securities Limited	776.0	5.9
Centre	150.0	0.0
Cham	397.0	-0.8
Chayun Computers	161.0	0.0
Chemipal	490.0	8.9
Chim-Nir	332.0	0.0
CI Systems	112.0	0.0
Cidav Printed Circuits Limited	380.0	0.0
Cinor Darom	353.0	0.0
Clal Tourism Limited	557.0	-2.8
Cohen Beni	153.1	0.0
Cohen Development & Industrial Buildings Limited	120.0	-7.3
Comly Interactive Movies Ltd.	155.0	0.0
Comly Interactive Movies Ltd.	7.0	-6.7
Compulite	210.0	5.0
Computer Direct	980.0	0.0
Comsoft Technologies	930.0	0.0
Comtech	452.0	3.2
Comtrans Transportation & Eng.	769.0	0.0
Contahal Limited	1250.0	0.8
Contractors	21600.0	0.0
Coral Beach	781.0	10.0
Crow	579.0	0.0
Crystal Consumer Products Limited	530.0	0.0
Cyclone Aviation Products	5320.0	47.4
Dafron	1391.0	0.0
DAN Rent-A-Car	780.0	-3.7
Danbar Ltd.	3560.0	0.0
Danbar Ltd.	9040.0	-0.9
Danbar Resources Develop	4190.0	0.0
Danbar Technologies Ltd.	3860.0	9.7
Danel	90.0	0.0
Danel (Adir Yeoshua) Limited	2190.0	1.4
Danel (Adir Yeoshua) Limited	200.0	0.0
Dankner	400.0	0.0
Danly	490.0	0.0
Darad	109.4	0.0
Darban	52.0	0.0
Daros	154.0	0.0
Darton	299.0	0.0
Data Automation Limited	690.0	0.0
DCL Technologies Limited	722.0	0.0
Decision Systems Israel Limited	384.0	4.6
Degem Systems	490.0	0.4
Delek Drilling - LP	14.8	0.0
Delek Energy Systems Limited	1421.0	0.0
Destiny	1062.0	0.0
DI Rom Building Invest & Development	1260.0	0.0
Digal Investments & Holdings Limited	1250.0	7.8
DJG Factory of Electrical Supplies Limited	430.0	0.0
Din Movies Production LP	1.0	0.0
Dolev Insurance Co. Limited	380.0	3.8
Domicar	461.0	0.0
Dor Berger	300.0	0.0
DOR Chemicals Limited	41.0	0.0
Dor Energy	1220.0	0.0
Doron Investment & Developments Limited	50.6	0.0
Dori Engineering	472.0	0.0
Dovrat Shrem	1480.0	0.0
DS Inv	720.0	0.0
Dubek	3.3	6.5
Dubek	3.3	6.5
Dunlec Brothers Limited	236.0	0.0
E & M Computing	1338.0	-0.1
E Solomon Investment & Consultancy Limited	576.0	0.0
Elhut Capital Markets Ltd.	527.0	0.0
Elni Industries	138.3	0.0
ELA R Construction Engineer	275.0	0.0
Elad Hotels Ltd.	422.0	0.0
Elad Hotels Ltd.	43.0	0.0
Eden Tech Ltd.	155.0	0.0
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd.	300.0	-1.0
Electrode Works Zika Ltd.	565.0	0.0
Electrode Works Zika Ltd.	2540.0	0.0
Electronics Line (El) Ltd.	699.0	0.0
Elgar Migdal Investments Co.	7390.0	-1.5
El-Kanit Development Ltd.	390.0	0.0
Eliem Migdal Investment CP	5140.0	-0.2
Elrod-Development & Real EST	1.0	0.0
Elrod-Development & Real EST	206.0	0.0
El-Rov (Israel) Ltd.	77.2	0.0
Emek	193.4	0.0
Engel Trade Centers Ltd.	59.0	3.3
Enterprise	432.0	0.0
Equital Ltd.	1447.0	3.4
Europe Israel	1249.0	0.6
Evrot Industries Ltd.	294.0	-5.2
Evrot Industries Ltd.	35.0	0.0
Excellence	1470.0	0.0
Export Investment Corp.	869.0	0.0
F.C.T. Formula Computer Technologies Limited	1184.0	-1.3
Feldman Industr	250.0	0.0
Feuchtwanger Industries Ltd.	33400.0	3.7
Fidelity Gold	2830.0	0.0
Financial Levers Ltd.	24.0	0.0
Five J	371.0	0.0
Flying Carpet Limited	1165.0	1.4
FMS Enterprises Migun Limited	1700.0	-5.5
Frutarom	400.0	0.0
Gachelet	13200.0	0.8
Gal Beach Hotel	975.0	0.0
Galran	1270.0	-9.3
Gama Communications Limited	139.0	0.0
Gamatronic	640.0	0.0
Gambit Computer Communications Limited	2780.0	0.0
GAN Shmuel Food Industries	413.0	-2.8
GAN Shmuel Food Industries	1403.0	-0.1
Ganey Or Investments Limited	108.0	0.0
Gazit	700.0	0.0
Gazit Globe (1982) Limited	850.0	-1.7
Gibor	62.0	0.0
Gibor Sabrina Alpha Socks Limited	200.0	0.0
Gibor Sport Holdings Limited	835.0	-2.5
Gibor Sport Holdings Limited	92.0	0.0
Gilboa	54.0	0.0
Gilon Investments (1979) Limited	180.0	0.0
Gilat Telecommunications	1782.0	1.3
Givot Olam Oil Exploration - LP (1993)	104.5	10.0
Golan Fine Crafts (1977) Limited	498.0	0.0
Gold	405.0	0.0
Golden House	512.0	0.0
Green Software Development Limited	240.0	0.0
H Aloni Enterprises Ltd.	279.0	0.0
Habas	3520.0	4.1
Hachsharat Hayishuv Hotels	319.0	0.0
Hachsharat Hayishuv Hotels	84.0	1.2
Hadar Insurance Co.	2550.0	-1.9
Hadar Insurance Co.	666.0	-0.3
Hadarim Propert	1410.0	10.2
Hamakor Printing Limited	159.3	0.0
Hamashbir Fashion Warehouses Limited	528.0	0.0
Hashmira Security Technologies (1971) Limited	752.0	0.0
Hashmira Security Technologies (1971) Limited	192.0	0.0
Hason	238.0	0.0
Hassin ESH	887.0	0.0
Hatehol Ltd	156.0	0.0
Hatehol Ltd	73.1	0.0
Hayal Holdings (1985) Ltd.	1110.0	0.0
Hayal Holdings (1985) Ltd.	129.0	0.0
HED Arzi	246.0	0.0
HGB Marketing & Distribution of Building Limited	438.0	0.0
Hiron Trade Investment IND	10150.0	0.0
Hiron Trade Investment IND	35000.0	0.0
HL Finance & Services Ltd.	2370.0	0.0
Hod Metal Products Manufacturing Co. Limited	103.6	0.0
Hofit	172.0	1.2
Hotel Yamit Tel Aviv Limited	186.0	0.0
IES Electronics Industries	49.0	88.5
IES Electronics Industries	250.0	0.0
Ilan GAT Engineers Ltd.	118.0	0.0
ILD Insurance	380.0	0.0
Imco Industries Ltd.	911.0	0.0
Industrial Buildings Corp.	2.7	0.0
Industrial Buildings Corp.	25.6	-8.2
Industrial Development	1520.0	-2.6
Industries & Investments of Safen Ltd.	1259.0	2.4
INOC Dead Sea LP	1.0	0.0
INOC Dead Sea LP	46.0	-1.3
Intercosma Ltd.	1050.0	0.0
Inter-Gama Investment Co. Ltd.	2400.0	0.0
Inter-Gama Investment Co. Ltd.	11700.0	0.0
Inventech Investment Co.	600.0	0.0
Investment Co. Founded Ampa	9200.0	0.0
Investment Corp. Of Mizrahi	10250.0	-0.5
ISAL	1600.0	0.0
ISAL	386.0	4.0
Isral Holdings Ltd.	1067.0	3.6
ISE Consulting Directing Ltd.	1664.0	-1.5
Isracolor	509.0	0.0
Israel Adler Ltd.	120.0	0.0
Israel Citrus Plantations	31700.0	0.0
Israel Citrus Plantations	98000.0	0.0
Israel Cold Storage & Supply	2040.0	-9.3
Israel Phoenix Assurance Co.	3000.0	0.0
Israel Properties Rental CP	5900.0	0.0
Israel Steel Mills	110.0	1.0
Israeli Processing Co. Ltd.	100.0	0.0
Israel-Rassco Investment Co.	29700.0	0.0
Israel-Rassco Investment Co.	6740.0	0.0
Isralom Properties	900.0	0.0
Isramco - LP	2.6	4.0
Isate Lines Limited	2290.0	0.0
Istec Capital Markets Limited	33.5	5.7
Ituran	3800.0	-3.9
Jacobinski	124.0	5.2
Jaysour Mortgage Bank Ltd.	181.0	0.0
JEC	192.0	-4.5
Jerusalem Oil Exploration	548.0	2.8
Jerusalem Oil Exploration	3.6	-2.7
Jewelex	225.0	0.0
Jordan Investment Ltd.	459.0	2.7
Jordan River Hotel	480.0	0.0
Kadmany	119.0	0.0
Kadouri Signs Limited	649.0	0.0
Kadury & Hai (Molet) Assets & Investments Limited	852.0	0.0
Kalnit Industries (1983) Limited	1181.0	0.0
Kalanit Carmon Software Services	1427.0	-5.2
Kamor	343.0	0.0
Kardan Investments Limited	—	—
Kardan Investments Limited	2650.0	0.0
Kargal Limited	550.0	-0.2
Katz	126.0	0.0
Kedem Chemicals	2670.0	2.7
Keren G.A.P. Development (1985)	130.0	0.0
Keren Gap Holdings	165.0	-6.1
Kesher Rent a Car Limited	825.0	0.0
Keter Publishing House Limited	599.0	0.0
Kind	15.7	0.0
King Engine Bearings Ltd.	239.0	0.0
Kinneret View Hotel Limited	169.0	0.0
Kisch Krur Ltd.	183.0	0.0
Kital Holdings & International Development	220.0	0.0
Kivun	38.0	0.0
Kili Industries Ltd.	6800.0	-0.6
Kopel Limited (New)	323.0	0.0
L M Lipski Limited	4970.0	0.0
Lachish Industries Ltd.	3000.0	0.0
Lamore	750.0	0.0
Lapidoth	57.0	0.0
Laser Technology	442.0	0.0
Laviav	450.0	0.0
Leader	1043.0	-0.7
Leedan	1422.0	1.5
Lego	394.0	-8.8
Levi	498.0	-3.3
Levi	37.0	0.0
Lieber Subsoil Industries Limited	334.0	0.0
Ligad Investments & Building	253.0	0.0
Lightergas Supp	888.0	0.0
Lima-Lab Information & Mgmt Systems	240.0	0.0
Lipman	3770.0	8.3
Lito Offset Ziv Limited	205.0	0.0
Lodzia-Rotex Investment Limited	1128.0	0.0
Lodzia-Rotex Investment Limited	4650.0	0.0
Loewenthal	660.0	0.0
Luchot Hagafi	29.0	0.0
Ludan Engineering Co. Limited	153.5	0.0
Lumir Holdings Ltd.	3100.0	0.0
M&M Cohen Building and Construction Limited	130.0	0.0
Maabarot	1080.0	0.0
Macpell	580.0	-5.7
Macpell	26.6	10.4
Mafil	406.0	-2.2
Magam	187.3	1.4
Magma	253.0	10.0
Magor Holdings Ltd.	1806.0	0.0
Magor Holdings Ltd.	7210.0	0.0
Maior Hatornaika Ltd.	100.0	0.0
Man Food Industries & Investments Limited	59.0	0.0
Marathon Capital Development Fund Limited	97.8	0.0
Maritime Bank Of Israel	1419.0	-2.1
Mashav Refrigeration Industries Limited	795.0	-0.5
Mashov Computers Ltd.	494.0	0.0
Mashov Computers Marketing Limited	395.0	-6.3
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	1628.0	3.0
Matityahu Lifshitz Ltd.	161.9	2.2
Matityahu Lifshitz Ltd.	520.0	0.0
Maxima Air Separation Center	380.0	0.0
Maxima Air Separation Center	1420.0	0.0
Mediterranean Sea Hotels Limited	43.5	0.0
Medtechnica	594.0	0.0
Medtechnica	54.9	15.8
Megason	57.5	0.0
Meir Ezra & Sons	1800.0	-4.0
Meliaron	40.0	0.0
Melta Inter Industry (1973) Limited	540.0	6.9
Mendelsohn	291.0	0.0
Menorah Holdings Ltd	7450.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
AER Industries Limited	855.0	0.7
Merhav	145.0	0.0
Meshulam Levinstein CON & EN	2590.0	3.1
Meshulam Levinstein CON 3 EN	4450.0	0.0
Meytavit	104.0	0.0
Michnal Building & Inv (5)	19.0	0.0
Middle East Tube	170.0	0.0
Middle East Tube	9.0	718.2
Midley Etze Karmel Limited	397.0	2.1
Mibumor	1400.0	-1.4
Mibumor	110.0	0.0
Mimsar	132.9	0.0
Mini Line	657.0	0.0
Minrav Holdings Ltd.	14200.0	0.0
Mivtach Shamir	2570.0	5.3
Mivtach Shamir Finance Limited	1320.0	10.2
MLI Lasers (1992) Ltd.	71.1	0.0
MLL	306.0	-1.3
MM	101.0	0.3
MMD Technology Israel 1983	1950.0	0.0
Modgal	780.0	0.0
Molet Israel Technology Fund	195.5	-0.7
Molet Israel Technology Fund	233.0	0.0
MOR	366.0	0.0
Moshkovitz	120.0	0.0
MTI	170.3	-7.9
MTM	1530.0	0.0
Mula Center-Beauty	223.0	0.0
Multiple Investments & Developing Limited	899.0	0.0
Mul-T-Lock Ltd.	680.0	4.6
Mytag	143.0	6.4
Mzpk	643.0	0.0
N. Feldman & Son Limited	77.4	0.0
Namal	115.0	0.0
Naphtha	22.9	-0.9
Nationale - PRF	127.0	0.0
Natour-Travel Agents Association for Organized Tours Limited	540.0	0.0
Navigator Inv	243.0	9.5
Nechushtan Invt Co. Ltd.	465.0	0.0
Nechushtan Invt Co Ltd.	2600.0	0.0
Nechushtan Prop	155.9	0.0
Nechushtan Prop	17.9	0.0
Negev Ceramics Ltd.	185.3	0.0
Neot Aviv Ltd.	7500.0	0.0
Nessuah Zannex Limited	427.0	0.0
Neurim Pharmaceuticals (1991) Limited		
Neve Arbel	165.0	0.0
Nevim	364.0	0.0
Nevict	774.0	0.0
NIA Metal Works & Electronic Painting Limited	268.0	0.0
Nilan Computers (Israel) Ltd	694.0	0.0
Neko Industries (1992) Limited	2010.0	-1.0
Nissan	260.0	0.0
NMC Music Ltd.	346.0	0.0
Noga	1482.0	0.0
Noga Insurance Company Limited	73.0	-1.3
Nordan - LP	—	—
Nordan Tech	500.0	0.0
Norfolk	596.0	0.0
NUR Outdoor Advertising Ltd.	53.0	0.0
Oceans Advanced Industries	286.0	-4.0
Oct Investment & Developmen	8480.0	2.4
Oct Investment & Developmen..	750.0	0.5
Ofer	6200.0	0.0
Ofer Commercial Centers Limited	580.0	0.0
Ofer Development & Investments Limited	1227.0	-0.7
Olfis Textile Ltd.	1129.0	0.0
Ogdan	61.0	0.0
Oil Fields LP	2.4	0.0
Olizky Mining Ltd.	36.0	0.0
Omni Food Brands Limited	253.0	0.0
Omni-Eichut Limited	210.0	0.0
Ophir	290.0	0.0
Ophir Tours Limited	440.0	3.0
Oppenheimer Jerusalem Sweets	38.0	0.0
Optima Management &invest 66	129.0	0.0
Orazit Ltd.	500.0	0.0
Orbit-Alchut Technologies	79.3	-4.3
Orda Print Industries Ltd.	2750.0	0.2
Orll Holdings Limited	360.0	2.9
Orlite Industries (1959) Ltd.	306.0	-2.5
Orlite Industries (1959) Ltd.	60.0	0.0
Ormat Industries	1.0	0.0
Orsys Clinical Systems Limited	2560.0	0.0
Ortal Decorating (1993) Ltd.	350.0	-2.6
Otzar Hashilton Hamekomi Ltd	23000.0	-0.9
Oz And	388.0	0.0
OZ Hydraulics	115.0	0.0
OZ Investment Co. Ltd.	165.0	0.0
Packer Plada Limited	5540.0	[illegible]
Paltam Industries (1990) Ltd.	850.0	0.0
Pamo Investment & Properties	540.0	2.5
Pan Door Industries Limited	250.0	0.0
Pardess	600.0	0.0
Parfen	54.5	0.0
Paylon Industries Limited	505.0	-3.6
Paz-Chen Ltd.	520.0	0.0
PCB Ltd.	1309.0	0.7
Pereg	123.0	0.0
Penclase	999.0	0.2
Pica	283.0	5.1
Pilat Technologies International Ltd	95.0	0.0
Pinros Holdings Limited	122.0	0.0
Plasson	4700.0	0.0
Plasson	463.0	-5.1
Plasto SAC	575.0	0.0
Plasto SAC	50.0	6.7
Poalim Investments Limited	2290.0	0.0
Polgat Ltd.	420.0	-3.0
Polgat Ltd.	1685.0	-0.2
Pollak	200.0	4.5
Polygon Real Estate Ltd.	1000.0	0.0
Poseidon Industries	99.8	0.0
Printing Enterprises Limited	401.0	0.0
Pritzker Enterprise Ltd.	174.8	0.0
Profit	349.0	0.0
Properties Enterprise and Development Limited	1249.0	0.0
Pyramid	49.6	0.0
Queenco Ltd	35.7	0.0
Rebintex	400.0	0.0
Ralco Agencies	209.0	0.0
RAM ZUR	62.0	0.0
Ramgor Investments Limited	170.0	0.0
Ranitech Limited	516.0	0.0
Rapac	2300.0	0.0
Rassco Rural & Suburban Settlement	1400.0	0.0
Ratio Oil Exploration - LP	1.0	0.0
RAV CAR	160.0	0.0
Ravad	124.0	0.0
RED SEA Hotels Ltd.	910.0	1.1
Regency Jerusalem Hotel	128.0	-0.8
Rekah	390.0	0.0
Reshef	54.0	0.0
Rimoni Industries Limited	818.0	0.0
Rogosin Enterprises Of Israe	1781.0	-1.1
Rogosin Enterprises Of Israe	425.0	0.0
Romtech	430.0	0.0
Rosebud Medical	96.0	1.9
Rosenthal	100.4	0.0
Rotem	230.0	-6.5
Rotshtein Construction & Assets Company Limited	126.0	0.0
RSL Electronics Limited	512.0	0.6
RSL Electronics Limited	317.0	8.6
Sadot Research and Development Fund Limited	239.0	1.3
Sahar Development & Invest	2850.0	0.0
Sahar Development & Invest	401.0	0.0
Sahar Securities	549.0	-2.0
Salomon A Angel Ltd.	5560.0	-3.3
Sanlacol Ltd.	355.0	0.0
Sano-Brunos Enterprises Ltd.	2790.0	0.0
Sano-Brunos Enterprises Ltd.	12200.0	-1.5
Sarfati	538.0	0.0
Sarfati	31.0	0.0
Scope Metals Trading & Technical Services Ltd.	104.0	0.0
Scope Metals Trading & Technical Services Ltd.	1270.0	0.0
Secom (Israel)	281.0	0.0
Semicom Industries Limited	127.0	0.0
Sarafon	355.0	0.0
Shahar Hamillennium (1991)	950.0	0.0
Shamir	578.0	0.0
Shaniv	600.0	2.4
Shay Ber Real Estate Investments Limited	69.8	0.0
Shekel	220.0	0.0
Shelem Limited	68.9	3.1
Shefeg Textile Limited	115.0	0.0
Shem TOV	305.0	0.0
Shemen Industries Ltd.	12100.0	0.0
Shiladot Metal Works Ltd.	76.0	0.0
Shore Zone Constr Property	377.0	0.0
Shtang	103.9	0.0
Shulamit Gardens Hotels Limited	465.0	0.0
Simcha Uneli & Sons Engrn	102.0	0.0
Sinai	693.0	0.0
Sintec	306.0	0.3
Solomon Holding	412.0	-1.0
Solomon Holding	80.4	0.0
Spectronix Ltd.	1239.0	0.3
STG International Ltd.	1100.0	0.0
Sunfrost Ltd.	4390.0	0.0
Super Email Ltd.	1085.0	1.4
Super Email Ltd.	136.9	10.4
Synopsis	154.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Taal Manufacturing Plywood	165.7	0.0
Tadbik	220.0	-2.2
Tadiran Consumer Ltd.	510.0	-7.9
TAL	130.0	0.0
Taldor Computer Systems (1986) Limited	535.0	-4.0
Tashtiuz Invest & Holdings	—	
Taste	188.0	0.0
TAT Aero Equipment Industrie	370.0	0.0
TAT Aero Equipment Industrie	1240.0	-3.7
Tava Communication	375.0	0.0
Tava Inv (5)	816.0	8.1
Team Computers & Systems Ltd	5860.0	-2.3
Team Computers & Systems Ltd.	530.0	0.0
Technoplast Industries Ltd	478.0	0.0
Tedea Technological Development & Automation Ltd.	1428.0	-4.8
Tedea Technological Development & Automation Ltd.	169.0	0.0
Telen	1367.0	1.4
Telsys	1355.0	0.1
Telsys	198.6	-0.7
Tenne	198.0	-2.0
Teuza-A Fairchild Tech Vent	200.0	0.0
Teuza-A Fairchild Tech Vent	202.0	-2.9
The Israel Corp Limited	176900.0	5.0
Third Millennium Tourism & Recreation Limited	210.0	0.0
Tikon-Veal Holdings Ltd.	131.0	0.0
TIV Textile Group (1969) Ltd.	369.0	0.0
TMM Integrated Recycling Industries Limited	163.0	0.0
Tobias	1839.0	0.0
Tom Holdings Limited	1030.0	0.0
Topper Fashion Enterp (1977)	45.2	0.0
Tosaf Compounds Limited	379.0	0.0
Trade Bank Limited	368.0	-0.5
Tradetal	513.0	0.0
Transcial	604.0	5.0
Trendline Information and Communication Services Limited	1800.0	0.0
Trimauer	973.0	0.4
Tzmiha Investment House Ltd.	513.0	0.0
Unibar (1)	754.0	0.0
Umca Investment Co. Ltd.	4300.0	0.0
Unicorn Investments Co. Ltd	34.0	0.0
Unitress Industries Ltd	2130.0	0.0
United Mizrahi Bank Ltd.	66.5	3.6
Universal-H Hoffman & Sons	525.0	-0.3
Urdan Industries Ltd.	304.0	0.3
Videomaxx	29.7	0.0
Villar	444.0	0.0
Villiger	30.2	0.0
Vitalgo Textile Works Ltd	295.0	-1.7
VSP Capital Holdings Limited	958.0	0.0
Vulcan	491.0	0.0
Wardinon	25000.0	0.0
Wardinon	156.0	0.0
Willy Food	1180.0	-1.7
Willy Food	285.0	0.0
Wolfman Industries Ltd.	471.0	0.0
Wolfman Industries Ltd.	2110.0	0.0
Wolfson	98700.0	1.0
Yaad Industries Ltd.	305.0	0.0
Yaad Industries Ltd.	60.0	0.0
Yaakov Engel Constr Enter Co.	505.0	-2.7
YAD	546.0	0.0
Yatizaz Steel Service Co. Limited	259.0	0.0
Yana Systems	671.0	0.0
Yeda Computers & Software (1982 Israel) Limited	1430.0	0.0
Yeuda	160.0	-1.3
Yenan Hotels Ltd.	230.0	0.0
YT America - Israel Investment Company Limited	2270.0	-1.3
YT America - Israel Investment Company Limited	380.0	0.0
Zahar Engineers Limited	560.0	0.0
Zeev Computers & Technology Limited	3150.0	5.0
Zeev Retail Chains Limited	48700.0	0.0
Zeler Eltagon	390.0	0.0
Zeler Eltagon Investments & Securities	74.0	0.0
Zion Properties & Development (1956) Limited	2750.0	0.0
Zion Properties & Development (1956) Limited	10100.0	0.0
Znometal	540.0	0.0
Zion Holdings Ltd.	15000.0	0.0
Zohar Industries (1988) Ltd	251.0	0.0
Zoko	320.0	-3.2
ZUR Shamir Holdings Ltd.	162.4	2.0

ISRAELI SHARES ABROAD

AMEX

American Israeli Paper Mills	37.0	-1.0
Ampal American Israel	4.13	3.13
Carmel Container SYS	5.88	0.0
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd	0.69	0.0
Emultek Ltd.	5.94	-5.94
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	9.0	6.67
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	6.25	11.11
Integrated Technology USA	1.5	0.0

NASDAQ

A.C.S. Electronics Limited	1.88	15.39
Accent Software International Ltd	0.22	-12.5
Accent Software International Ltd.	0.19	0.0
Aladdin Knowledge Systems	9.25	2.42
American Israeli Paper Mills	37.0	-1.0
Ampal American Israel	11.69	0.0
Arel Communications & Software Ltd.	5.75	2.22
Arel Communications & Software Ltd.	1.0	0.0
BVR Technologies Ltd.	2.81	-2.17
Better Online Solutions Ltd.	4.63	2.78
Blue Square-Israel Ltd.	12.69	-4.7
BVR Systems Ltd.	9.19	0.0
Carmel Container SYS	5.88	0.0
Check Point Software Technologies	36.69	0.0
Comverse Technology Inc.	81.38	3.01
Data Systems & Software	1.94	0.0
Cimatron Ltd.	2.06	3.13
Crystal Systems Solutions	7.88	-0.79
ECI Telecom Ltd	41.31	-0.75
Edusoft Ltd.	8.16	0.39
DSP Group Inc.	14.88	-0.83
Elbit Ltd.	3.78	0.83
Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd.	10.13	-1.82
Elbit Systems Ltd.	13.75	-0.9
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd.	0.69	0.0
Elron Electronic Inds.	17.31	0.73
Elscint Ltd	12.19	-1.51
Eltek Ltd.	0.94	-25.0
Emultek Ltd.	5.94	-5.94
Engel General Developers Ltd.	1.88	0.0
ESC Medical Systems Ltd.	5.06	-3.57
Eshed Robotec (1982) Ltd.	0.38	-14.28
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	6.25	11.11
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	9.0	6.67
Formula Systems (1985) Ltd.	25.38	-2.87
Forsoft Ltd.	9.0	1.41
Fundtech Ltd.	19.31	-1.59
Galileo Technology Ltd	23.0	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	0.75	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	0.22	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	2.31	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	1.75	0.0
Gilat Communications Ltd.	12.0	8.47
Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd.	62.63	0.2
Healthcare Technologies Ltd.	0.94	0.0
Home Centers (Diy) Ltd.	9.5	0.0
IIS Intelligent Information	0.75	4.35
ISG International Software Group Ltd.	11.5	-1.08
The Israel Land Development	15.0	0.0
Koor Industries Limited	21.0	-0.59
Lanoptics Ltd.	2.56	2.5
Logal Educational Software	0.63	0.0
M-Systems Flash Disk Pioneer	4.25	1.49
Magal Security Systems Ltd.	3.19	2.0
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	26.88	1.9
Medis El Ltd.	7.5	1.7
Memco Software Ltd.	10.56	0.59
MER Telemanagement Solutions	1.72	0.0
New Dimension Software	51.56	0.36
Nexus Telecommunication SYS	2.5	0.0
Nice Systems Ltd.	29.5	-0.84
Noga Electro-Mechanical Industries (1985) Ltd.	0.88	0.0
NUR Macroprinters Ltd.	2.81	-6.25
Optisystems Solutions Ltd.	7.5	0.84
Orbotech Ltd.	49.75	2.31
Orckit Communications Ltd.	14.06	-0.88
Oshap Technologies Ltd.	10.5	10.53
Paradigm Geophysical Ltd.	4.38	-2.78
Point of Sale Limited	8.13	1.56
Rada Electronic Inds Ltd	1.0	0.0
Radcom Ltd.	2.5	2.56

	LAST	CHANGE*
RIT Technologies Ltd.	1.81	0.0
Sapiens International Corp.	10.88	2.86
Scanvec Co. Ltd.	2.38	-13.64
Sotex Corp. Ltd.	9.06	-1.36
Silicom Ltd.	1.69	0.0
Super-Sol Limited	13.19	-1.4
TVG Technologies Ltd.	0.88	12.0
TVG Technologies Ltd.	225.0	0.0
Tadiran Telecommunications	22.88	-0.54
TAT Technologies Ltd.	1.31	-6.67
Tecnomatix Technologies Ltd.	12.38	-2.94
Tefron Ltd.	7.63	-1.61
Teva Pharmaceutical	43.69	-0.57
TOP Image Systems Ltd.	4.19	-1.47
Tower Semiconductor Ltd.	7.25	3.57
TTI Team Telecom International Ltd	8.06	0.78
Vocaltec Communications Ltd.	11.19	-2.72
Wiztec Solutions Ltd	18.31	-3.62

NYSE

Amdocs	20.81	-1.18
Blue Square-Israel Ltd.	12.69	-4.7
Dmatek Ltd	28.5	-3.28
DSP Communications Inc.	14.5	8.82
Elscint Ltd.	12.19	-1.51
First Israel Fund	12.56	0.0
GEO Interactive Media Group	49.0	-7.55
Koor Industries Limited	21.0	-0.59
PEC Israel Economic Corp.	29.63	1.72
Simula Inc.	5.69	-1.09
Super-Sol Limited	13.19	-1.4
Tefron Ltd.	7.63	-1.61

LONDON

Batm Advanced Communications	245.0	1.03
Technoplast Industries Ltd.	80.0	0.0
Selector Ltd.	2.5	0.0
Pilat Technologies International Ltd.	13.5	0.0

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

3com Corp.	24.75	-2.94
AT&T Corp	85.69	-2.63
Abbott Laboratories	49.75	-0.38
Adobe Systems Inc.	47.81	-0.52
Advanced Micro Devices	17.44	-7.92
Aeroquip-Vickers Inc.	57.38	0.11
AES Corp.	36.5	-3.79
Aetna Inc.	77.19	0.49
Aflac Inc.	46.69	-1.97
Air Products & Chemicals Inc.	32.38	1.77
Airtouch Communications	92.0	0.48
Alberto-Culver Co.	23.81	-0.26
Albertson's Inc.	56.75	-0.66
Alcan Aluminum Ltd.	23.69	-4.53
Alcoa Inc.	37.75	-4.58
Allegheny Teledyne Inc.	19.0	-3.49
Allergan Inc.	88.25	-1.47
Alliedsignal Inc.	45.44	-0.27
Allstate Corp.	39.0	2.29
Alltel Corp.	58.06	-0.21
Alza Corp.	52.13	-2.68
Amazon.Com Inc.	128.31	5.01
Amerada Hess Corp.	48.06	0.26
Ameren Corporation	37.38	-2.29
America Online Inc.	91.0	0.14
America West Holdings Corp.	17.06	0.74
American Electric Power	41.88	-1.62
American Express Company	118.06	1.29
American General Corp.	75.0	1.87
American Greetings	23.5	0.0
American Home Products Corp.	62.56	3.41
American International Group	120.56	0.47
American National Insurance	73.75	-0.34
American Power Conversion	33.0	-0.38
American Stores Co.	34.25	0.0
Ameritech Corporation/Del	64.88	1.76
Ametek Inc.	17.25	0.0
Amgen Inc.	67.63	-0.92
AMP Inc.	53.88	0.7
AMR Corp/Del	59.44	0.32
Anadarko Petroleum Corp.	33.75	1.89
Analog Devices	27.44	-1.57
Andrew Corp.	13.06	-2.34
Anheuser-Busch Companies Inc.	78.5	0.56
AON Corp.	62.38	-0.8
Apache Corp.	21.63	-3.35
Apple Computer Inc.	33.81	-1.64
Applied Magnetics Corp.	3.88	-4.62
Applied Materials Inc.	58.19	-8.0
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	14.81	-1.25
Armstrong World Inds Inc.	49.94	-0.87
ASA Ltd.	17.81	-1.04
Asarco Inc.	14.56	1.3
Ascend Communications Inc.	83.19	2.31
Ashland Inc.	42.38	-0.88
Associates First Capital Corp.	43.31	0.87
Atlantic Richfield Co.	58.25	-1.17
Automatic Data Processing	39.44	-0.79
Autodesk Inc.	40.19	-2.26
Automatic Data Processing	39.44	-0.79
Autozone Inc.	34.06	-2.33
Avery-Dennison Corp.	51.19	-0.85
Avnet Inc.	40.0	-1.54
Avon Products	47.25	0.4
Bamco Corp	5.25	1.21
Baker Hughes Inc.	19.94	-3.04
Ball Corp.	40.75	-1.36
Baltimore Gas & Electric	25.63	-2.61
Bandag Inc.	31.56	-1.75
Bank of New York Co. Inc.	37.31	1.53
Bank One Corp.	56.25	1.93
BankAmerica Corp.	70.25	3.12
BankBoston Corporation	41.94	2.13
Bankers Trust Corp.	87.75	-0.28
Bard (C.R.) Inc.	57.81	-0.11
Barnes & Noble Inc.	26.19	-3.23
Barrick Gold Corp.	18.75	-0.66
Battle Mountain Gold Co.	3.75	3.45
Bausch & Lomb Inc.	63.5	1.1
Baxter International Inc.	72.38	-0.86
BB&T Corporation	39.0	-0.48
Bear Stearns Companies Inc.	46.56	5.23
Becton Dickinson & Co.	37.25	0.34
Bed Bath & Beyond Inc.	33.06	-2.04
Bell Atlantic Corp.	54.56	-0.11
Bell Industries Inc.	11.31	0.0
Bellsouth Corporation	46.0	-0.41
Belo (A.H.) Corp.	18.19	-0.68
Beverly Enterprises Inc.	5.19	-3.49
Bemis Co.	35.0	1.82
Bestfoods	46.63	-1.19
Bethlehem Steel Corp.	8.13	-2.26
Biomet Inc.	39.56	1.44
Black & Decker Corporation	50.0	-0.37
Block H & R Inc.	50.06	-0.25
BMC Software Inc.	41.5	1.89
Boeing Co.	33.94	-2.51
Boise Cascade Corp.	31.5	-0.88
Books-A-Million Inc.	10.25	4.79
Bowater Inc.	39.38	-2.02
Boston Scientific Corp.	30.56	1.45
Briggs & Stratton	49.0	-0.38
British Telecom Plc	171.75	1.1
British Airways Plc	68.94	-0.09
British Steel Plc	19.69	-0.32
Brown Group Inc.	13.81	-1.78
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	63.69	0.29
Brown-Forman Corp.	64.13	0.1
Browning-Ferris Inds	39.06	0.48
Brunswick Corp.	20.31	3.17
Burlington Northern/Santa FE	33.25	-1.48
Burlington Resources Inc.	36.19	-1.03
Cabletron Systems	7.94	-5.22
Cabot Corp.	21.5	-1.15
Campbell Soup Company	40.31	-1.07
Canadian Pacific Ltd.	19.0	-1.82
Capital One Financial Corp.	135.5	1.84
Capstead Mortgage Corp.	5.0	2.56
Cardinal Health Inc.	75.0	-1.96
Caremark Corporation	19.38	-4.32
Carnival Corp.	44.06	-0.98
Carolina Power & Light	40.81	-1.66
Carpenter Technology	24.56	-2.48
Caterpillar Inc.	48.56	-2.14
CBS Corp.	36.38	-0.85
Centex Corp.	35.56	-1.22
Central & South West Corp.	24.88	-1.49
Centura Banks Inc.	65.88	-0.75
Ceridian Corp.	37.0	-2.69
Champion International Corp.	38.13	-0.97
Charming Shoppes	4.06	8.33
Chase Manhattan Corp.	88.19	2.77
Chevron Corporation	80.06	-1.23

	LAST	CHANGE*
Chubb Corp.	59.38	-1.86
Cigna Corp.	78.63	-0.97
Cincinnati Financial Corp.	37.0	-0.34
Cinergy Corp.	29.56	-1.05
Circuit City Stores-Circuit	70.0	-0.18
Cisco Systems Inc.	105.94	1.31
Citigroup Inc.	62.88	1.41
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.	34.88	0.36
Clorox Company	127.63	-0.29
CMS Energy Corp.	40.88	-2.1
Coastal Corp.	33.94	-1.27
Coca-Cola Co.	63.06	-1.47
Coca-Cola Enterprises	34.69	0.36
Colgate-Palmolive Company	92.88	0.88
Columbia Energy Group	53.06	0.0
Columbia HCA Healthcare Corp.	18.13	-2.69
Comcast Corp.	73.44	-0.34
Comerica Inc.	68.25	-0.36
Compaq Computer Corp.	32.69	-4.91
Computer Associates International Inc.	39.88	-4.78
Computer Sciences Corp.	69.19	1.75
Compuware Corp.	24.5	1.29
Conagra Inc.	30.13	0.21
Conseco Inc.	31.94	2.82
Consolidated Edison Inc.	46.63	-1.84
Consolidated Freightways Corp.	15.5	0.0
Consolidated Natural Gas Company	53.19	-1.85
Cooper Industries Inc.	45.31	-0.14
Cooper Tire & Rubber	19.81	-0.94
Coors (Adolph)	61.75	-0.2
Corning Inc.	59.19	1.94
Costco Companies Inc.	90.75	0.55
Countrywide Credit IND Inc.	39.63	2.59
Crane Co.	25.94	-2.58
Crompton & Knowles Corp.	17.31	1.1
Crown Cork & Seal Co. Inc.	27.31	-1.13
CSX Corp.	38.25	0.33
Cummins Engine	40.44	-0.46
Curtiss-Wright Corp.	38.56	-1.01
CVS Corp.	50.0	-1.96
Cyprus Amax Minerals Co.	11.0	-0.56
DaimlerChrysler AG	88.25	-1.47
Dallas Semiconductor Corp.	35.63	-2.73
Dana Corp.	37.75	-3.21
Data General Corp.	12.75	-1.92
Dayton-Hudson Corp.	69.5	0.72
De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited/De Beers Centenary AG	16.44	-3.31
Deere & Co.	33.63	-2.0
Dell Computer Corp.	44.06	-2.89
Delta Air Lines Inc.	63.69	1.39
Deluxe Corp.	33.81	0.37
Dial Corp. (New)	30.88	1.02
Diebold Inc.	25.19	-10.24
Dillards Inc.	23.81	-2.06
Dollar General	33.5	1.13
Dominion Resources Inc/Va	38.94	-0.95
Donnelley (R.R.) & Sons Co.	33.5	-1.11
Dover Corp.	34.63	-2.12
Dow Chemical Company	98.69	-2.53
Disney (Walt)	34.56	-5.15
Dow Jones & Co. Inc.	46.81	-1.19
DQE Inc.	39.94	0.0
DTE Energy Company	41.69	-1.19
Du Pont (E.I.) de Nemours	53.5	-0.7
Duke Energy Corp.	56.75	-3.1
Dun & Bradstreet Corp.	36.5	0.0
Eastern Enterprises	39.75	-1.55
Eastman Chemical Company	46.69	-0.8
Eastman Kodak Co.	65.25	-0.29
Eaton Corp.	68.75	-1.7
Ecolab Inc.	39.88	0.16
Edison International	25.5	-1.92
EG&G Inc.	27.38	-1.79
Egghead.Com Inc.	14.94	3.91
Egghead.Com Inc.	14.94	3.91
Electronic Data Systems	47.25	-2.58
EMC Corp-Mass	114.5	3.15
Emerson Electric Co.	58.19	-2.92
Engelhard Corp.	17.88	-4.57
Enron Corp.	58.0	1.97
Entergy Corp.	28.38	-1.73
Enzo Biochem Inc.	11.38	6.55
Equifax Inc.	35.06	-0.71
Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson	24.31	-1.02
Eaton Vance Corp.	19.38	-1.9
Exide Corp.	13.25	0.47
Exxon Corp.	70.38	-0.79
FDX Corporation	95.63	0.46
Federated Department Stores	39.5	1.12
First Data Corp.	40.75	3.49
First Union Corp.	53.0	-0.35
FirstEnergy Corporation	29.13	-3.52
Federal-Mogul Corp.	47.0	-3.59
Fedders Corp.	5.13	-4.65
Fleet Financial Group Inc.	43.75	-0.85
Fleetwood Enterprises	28.88	-5.52
Fluor Corporation	34.44	-4.51
Fannie MAE	72.94	2.28
FMC Corp.	49.13	-0.38
Florida Progress Corp.	40.19	-1.68
Food Lion Inc.	9.56	-2.55
Ford Motor Company	57.75	-3.85
Fortune Brands Inc.	30.0	0.0
Furniture Brands International Inc.	24.44	2.63
Foster Wheeler Corp.	12.31	0.0
FPL Group Inc.	51.88	-2.7
Fruit Of The Loom Inc.	12.81	-3.3
Gannett Co. Inc.	65.06	-2.62
Gap Inc.	69.56	-0.54
Gateway 2000 Inc.	71.5	0.17
General Dynamics Corp.	59.31	0.21
General Electric Company	105.81	0.95
General Instrument Corp.	32.5	-1.51
Gencorp Inc.	19.19	0.66
General Mills Inc.	79.44	-0.55
General Motors Corp.	86.5	1.0
Genuine Parts Co.	29.34	-4.58
Georgia-Pacific (Georgia-Pacific Group)	69.88	-0.89
Germany Fund	12.63	-0.49
Gatx Corp.	35.63	1.42
Gillette Company	56.88	-0.22
W.R. Grace & Company	12.94	0.0
Genrad Inc.	17.5	-2.78
Gulf Canada Resources Limited	2.56	2.5
General Datacomm Inds Inc.	2.19	-5.41
Glaxo Wellcome Plc	64.25	0.1
Golden West Financial Corp.	101.63	3.17
Goodrich (B.F.) Co.	34.38	0.0
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.	51.63	-0.48
Great Central Mines NL	2.75	0.0
GPU Inc.	39.63	-2.46
Grainger (W.W.) Inc.	44.88	-2.31
Great Atlantic & Pacific TEA Co.	31.31	0.0
Great Lakes Chemical Corp.	40.31	-0.62
GTE Corporation	61.94	0.81
Guidant Corp.	66.5	7.69
Halliburton Co.	32.06	-1.72
Hanna (M.A.) Co.	11.19	0.0
Harcourt General Inc.	46.31	-0.94
Harley-Davidson Inc.	59.44	-0.11
Harnischfeger Industries Inc.	6.81	-4.39
Harrah's Entertainment Inc.	17.13	-3.18
Harris Corp.	29.88	-0.42
Hirsch International Corp.	2.88	-4.17
Harsco Corp.	26.38	-2.09
Hartford Financial Services	55.25	0.91
Hartmarx Corp.	4.44	0.0
Hasbro Inc.	41.38	1.07
HCR Manor Care	24.31	2.1
Health Care Property Investors Inc.	28.31	-0.21
Healthsouth Corp.	11.69	-3.61
Hecla Mining Co.	3.44	-5.17
Heinz (H.J.) Co.	50.94	-2.04
Helix Technology Corp.	17.25	-9.8
Helmerich & Payne	19.06	1.67
Helmerich & Payne	19.06	1.67
Hercules Inc.	27.38	-0.91
Hercules Inc.	27.38	-0.91
Hershey Foods Corp.	60.63	0.83
Hershey Foods Corp.	60.63	0.83
Hewlett-Packard CO.	67.56	-3.31
Hilton Hotels Corp.	15.06	0.42
Hollinger Inc.	10.56	0.0
Home Depot Inc.	64.31	1.88
Homestake Mining Company	9.25	4.22
Honeywell Inc.	73.56	-2.08
Hormel Foods Corp.	37.19	-0.17
Household International Inc.	41.94	1.21
Reliant Energy Inc.	27.0	-3.14
Humana Inc.	17.75	-1.73
Illinois Tool Works	67.0	-1.02
Illinova Corp.	23.31	-2.36
Inco Ltd.	12.25	-3.45
Independence Community Bank	14.63	-0.85
Ingersoll-Rand Co.	51.69	1.97
Ryerson Tull Inc.	16.0	0.0
Intel Corp.	115.56	-3.4
Intergraph Corp.	5.75	0.0
Interlake Corp.		—
International Paper Co.	40.81	-0.61
Interpublic Group Cos. Inc.	77.5	1.31
Interpublic Group Cos. Inc.	77.5	1.31
International Business Machines Corp.	181.63	1.54
International Business Machines Corp.	181.63	1.54
International Flavors & Fragrances	40.44	-1.22
International Multifoods Corp.	21.88	-2.23
Jefferson-Pilot Corp.	70.56	0.8
Johnson & Johnson	87.75	-1.47
Kaufman & Broad Home Corp.	22.5	-0.28
Kellogg Co.	36.0	-0.52

	LAST	CHANGE*
Kerr-Mcgee Corp.	30.25	-1.63
Keycorp	32.75	1.18
K-Tel International Inc.	9.19	3.52
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	47.5	-0.26
Kaiser Aluminum Corp.	4.81	-2.53
King World Productions Inc.	24.81	-1.73
Kennametal Inc.	20.63	-3.51
Kla-Tencor Corp.	54.69	-3.85
K Mart Corp.	17.06	-1.44
Knight Ridder Inc.	49.69	-1.0
Kroger Co.	61.69	-2.28
Laidlaw Inc.	6.44	-0.96
Leggett & Platt Inc.	20.94	-0.89
Leucadia National Corp.	30.69	1.24
Eli Lilly & Co.	85.19	-2.18
Limited Inc.	38.19	-2.06
Lincoln National Corp.	84.63	0.0
Linear Technology Corp.	46.19	-6.23
Litton Industries Inc.	56.5	-0.66
LIZ Claiborne Inc.	32.94	0.77
Lockheed Martin Corporation	37.06	-1.17
Loews Corp.	81.5	1.79
Lone Star Industries	29.63	-0.84
Longs Drug Stores Inc.	32.88	-3.31
Loral Space & Communications	17.75	0.0
Louisiana-Pacific Corp.	18.25	-0.68
Lowe's Companies	63.88	1.79
LSI Logic Corp.	28.75	-5.83
Lubrizol Corp.	19.56	0.32
Lucent Technologies Inc.	108.63	1.05
Madge Networks NV	3.38	3.85
Mallinckrodt Inc.	30.56	-1.41
Marriott International Inc.	36.13	-0.52
Marsh & Mclennan Cos.	77.81	-0.24
Masco Corp.	26.38	-1.63
Massmutual Corporate Invstrs	24.0	0.0
Mattel Inc.	23.75	-1.04
MAY Department Stores Co.	58.38	-0.73
Mbna Corp.	24.31	1.83
Mcdermott International Inc.	23.06	-3.4
Mcdonald's Corp.	43.5	-3.87
Mcgraw-Hill Companies Inc.	54.06	-2.26
Mckesson HBOC Inc.	58.75	-0.42
Mead Corp.	29.13	-0.43
Medtronic Inc.	71.44	-3.38
Mellon Bank Corp.	68.75	0.0
Mentor Graphics Corp.	13.94	0.91
Merck & Co. Inc.	83.58	0.75
Meredith Corp.	31.31	-2.15
Merrill Lynch & Co.	86.63	2.59
Micron Technology Inc.	54.38	-2.9
Microsoft Corp.	162.0	1.89
Millipore Corp.	27.44	-0.68
Mine Safety Appliances Co.	64.0	3.86
Minnesota Mining & MFG Co.	77.75	1.14
Mitchell Energy & Development	12.88	3.0
Mobil Corp.	88.69	-0.35
Molex Inc.	28.63	-1.29
Monarch Machine Tool Co.	7.38	-0.84
Monsanto Co.	48.5	-2.82
Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Company	98.81	0.96
Morton International Inc.	36.31	-0.17
Motorola Inc.	71.25	0.35
Murphy Oil Corp.	36.38	-2.02
Nacco Industries	85.63	-1.23
Nalco Chemical Co.	27.88	-0.22
Nashua Corp.	12.06	0.52
National City Corp.	69.75	0.9
National Semiconductor Corp.	11.0	-1.68
National Service Inds Inc.	31.75	0.99
National Westminster Bank Plc	131.0	1.05
Navistar International	41.5	-3.49
Netscape Communications Corp.	79.88	0.08
New Century Energies Inc.	40.75	-3.41
New England Electric System	48.44	-0.39
New York Times Co.	30.31	-1.02
Newell Company	48.5	0.27
Newmont Mining Corp.	19.19	-1.6
News Corporation Limited	7.0	0.0
Nextel Communications Inc.	31.5	9.33
Niagara Mohawk Power	14.56	-0.85
Nicor Inc.	38.0	-0.65
Nike Inc.	54.0	-1.14
NL Industries	9.75	-0.64
Noble Affiliates Inc.	25.19	-4.95
Nokia OYJ	149.88	1.44
Nordstrom Inc.	33.75	-3.13
Norfolk Southern Corp.	29.06	1.75
Northeast Utilities	15.13	-1.63
Northern States Power-Mn	26.56	-1.85
Northern Telecom Ltd.	57.94	-1.49
Northrop Grumman Corp.	61.31	-0.51
Novell Inc.	23.56	1.07
Occidental Petroleum Corp.	15.31	0.41
OEA Inc.	8.75	-2.78
Ogden Corp.	25.0	3.9
Ohio Casualty Corp.	40.19	-0.46
Olin Corp.	11.19	0.0
Omnicom Group	68.06	0.09
Oneok Inc.	27.0	-1.6
Oracle Corporation	38.44	0.33
Oryx Energy Co.	10.38	0.0
Oshkosh B'gosh Inc.	19.44	0.97
Overseas Shipholding Group	12.5	0.0
Owens-Illinois Inc.	24.56	0.26
Owens Corning	30.81	-1.79
Penney (J.C.) Co.	37.13	-0.34
P G & E Corp.	31.44	-1.76
PP&L Resources Inc.	25.75	-1.67
Paccar Inc.	44.38	1.14
Pacificorp.	17.44	-4.12
Pall Corporation	16.75	0.75
Parametric Technology Corp.	18.94	8.21
Parker Drilling Co.	2.63	-2.33
Parker Hannifin Corp.	36.94	-2.96
Payless Shoesource Inc.	47.75	-1.67
Peoples Energy Corp.	34.31	-0.9
Peoplesoft Inc.	18.69	0.34
PEP Boys-Manny MOE & Jack	18.81	1.35
Pepsico Inc.	38.44	-1.6
Perkin-Elmer Corp.	91.69	-0.88
Pfizer Inc.	138.69	-0.63
Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc.	54.06	-0.12
Phelps Dodge Corp.	47.63	-1.17
Philip Morris Companies Inc.	39.94	1.43
Phillips Petroleum Co.	40.13	-1.99
Phycor Inc.	4.88	0.0
Pioneer Hi-Bred International	22.75	1.11
Pitney Bowes Inc.	64.31	-0.29
PNC Bank Corp.	55.81	1.25
Policy Management Systems CP	32.84	-6.56
Polycom Inc.	18.56	-7.19
Potash Corp. Of Saskatchewan	55.56	-0.56
Potlatch Corp.	34.56	-1.25
Potomac Electric Power	24.13	-1.28
PPG Industries Inc.	52.69	0.0
Procter & Gamble Co.	92.38	-0.67
Promus Hotel Corp.	33.63	-3.78
Public Service Enterprise Group	37.88	-1.94
Quaker Oats Co.	53.19	0.12
Qualcomm Inc.	79.75	2.57
Quanex Corp.	15.56	-1.12
Ralston-Ralston Purina Group	27.06	0.23
Rank Group Plc	8.13	4.84
Raychem Corp.	24.19	1.31
Raytheon Co.	52.81	-0.35
Reebok International Ltd.	18.69	1.01
Regions Financial Corp.	37.38	-0.99
Republic New York Corp.	45.0	0.14
Reynolds & Reynolds	18.25	1.74
Reynolds Metals Co.	42.94	0.0
Rite Aid Corp.	38.25	1.69
RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp.	29.63	3.49
Rockwell International Corp	44.5	-0.7
Rohm & Haas Co.	31.19	-1.97
Rowan Cos. Inc.	9.88	-5.39
Rowan Cos. Inc.	9.88	-5.39
Royal Dutch Petroleum Company	46.44	-0.8
Rubbermaid Inc.	36.25	-0.17
Ruddick Corp.	19.06	0.33
Russell Corp.	19.56	1.95
Ryder System Inc.	27.06	2.36
Safeco Corp.	40.88	-0.23
Safety-Kleen Corp.	12.75	4.08
Sara Lee Corp.	28.5	-1.4
SBC Communications Inc.	51.88	1.1
Schering-Plough Corporation	56.44	1.12
Schlumberger Ltd.	55.19	-1.01
Schwab (Charles) Corp.	78.44	-1.8
Scientific-Atlanta Inc.	26.75	-3.6
Scripps Co. E.W.	41.38	0.0
Seagate Technology Inc.	27.25	-6.44
Seagram Co. Ltd.	47.38	-1.04
Sears, Roebuck And Co.	43.5	-0.43
Sempra Energy	20.81	-2.06
Sensormatic Electronics Corp.	10.0	-1.24
Sequent Computer Systems Inc.	9.5	-1.3
Service Corporation International	15.06	-2.82
Shared Medical Systems Corp.	49.0	0.13
Shell Transport & Trading Co.	35.75	-1.21
Sherwin-Williams Co.	25.56	-2.85
Shoney's Inc.	2.44	0.0
Sigma-Aldrich	26.88	-1.38
Silicon Graphics Inc.	16.06	-2.26
Skyline Corp.	28.75	0.22
SLM Holding Corp.	44.44	1.14
Smith International Inc.	30.0	-0.21
Snap-On Inc.	29.94	0.0
Sonat Inc.	25.69	-0.49
Sony Corporation	93.19	8.59
Southdown Inc.	47.63	0.66

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (9.3.99)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.2782	4.3473	—	—	4.3148
U.S. dollar	3.9958	4.0603	3.93	4.11	4.0310
EU euro	4.3432	4.4133	—	—	4.3791
German mark	2.2207	2.2566	2.19	2.29	2.2389
Pound sterling	6.4244	6.5281	6.32	6.61	6.4825
French franc	0.6622	0.6729	0.65	0.68	0.6676
Japanese yen (100)	3.2876	3.3407	3.24	3.38	3.3069
Dutch florin	1.9709	2.0027	1.95	2.03	1.9871
Swiss franc	2.7267	2.7707	2.68	2.80	2.7479
Swedish krona	0.4860	0.4939	0.48	0.50	0.4900
Norwegian krone	0.5074	0.5156	0.50	0.52	0.5115
Danish krone	0.5844	0.5939	0.57	0.60	0.5892
Finnish mark	0.7305	0.7423	0.72	0.75	0.7365
Canadian dollar	2.6418	2.6845	2.60	2.72	2.6627
Australian dollar	2.5373	2.5783	2.50	2.61	2.5571
S. African rand	0.6482	0.6587	0.58	0.66	0.6554
Belgian franc (10)	1.0766	1.0940	1.07	1.11	1.0855
Austrian sch. (10)	3.1563	3.2073	3.11	3.25	3.1824
Italian lira (1000)	2.2431	2.2793	2.21	2.31	2.2616
Jordanian dinar	5.6120	5.7026	5.37	5.86	5.6615
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.14	1.22	1.1804
Irish punt	5.5147	5.6037	5.44	5.68	5.5604
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6103	2.6525	2.58	2.69	2.6319

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Southern Co.	24.31	-1.52
Southwest Airlines	31.81	2.0
Springs Industries Inc.	32.06	-1.35
Sprint Corp. (FON Group)	88.81	-1.04
Sprint Corp. (PCS Group)	34.81	1.46
SPS Technologies Inc.	40.88	1.08
St. Paul Companies	33.31	0.95
Standard Products Co.	15.38	0.41
Stanley Works	24.88	0.25
Staples Inc.	31.0	-1.2
State Street Corp.	80.75	-1.67
Storage Technology Corp.	34.63	0.18
Summit Bancorp	38.81	-0.16
Sun Microsystems Inc.	109.25	0.4
Sunbeam Corporation	5.56	1.14
Sundstrand Corp.	67.38	0.0
Sunoco Inc.	32.25	1.38
Suntrust Banks Inc.	68.94	0.36
Supervalu Inc.	23.63	-0.79
Symantec Corp.	17.5	-0.36
Sysco Corp.	27.25	-2.34
TAB Products	5.13	0.0
Tandy Corp.	55.63	-1.11
Tektronix Inc.	18.13	-3.97
Tele-Communications-TCI Group	66.5	-2.03
Telefonica SA	135.25	-0.64
Telefonos de Mexico	61.88	1.85
Tellabs Inc.	84.75	-2.6
Temple-Inland Inc.	59.5	-0.31
Tenet Healthcare Corporation	19.0	-1.3
Tenneco Inc. (New)	30.06	-1.03
Teradyne Inc.	54.0	-3.57
Tesoro Petroleum Corp.	8.5	1.49
Texaco Inc.	49.56	-1.37
Texas Instruments Inc.	99.25	-5.48
Texas Utilities Co.	42.5	-0.44
Textron Inc.	79.75	-0.93
Disney (Walt)	34.56	-5.15
Thermo Electron Corp.	14.13	-1.31
Thomas & Betts Corp.	40.69	-1.51
Time Warner Inc.	68.75	3.48
Times Mirror Company	55.88	-0.22
Timken Co.	17.56	-2.77
TJX Companies Inc.	34.0	2.26
Torchmark Corp.	34.13	-0.18
Tosco Corp.	20.44	-1.8
Toys R US Inc.	17.81	2.89
Transamerica Corp.	72.5	-0.52
Tribune Co.	66.81	0.38
Triton Energy Ltd.	6.44	-6.36
TRW Inc.	46.88	-2.72
TWA Corp.	123.0	0.0
Tyco International Ltd.	74.88	0.93
Tyler Corp/Del	5.94	2.15
U S Home Corp.	33.38	-3.09
U.S. Bancorp	34.56	0.73
UAL Corp.	66.38	0.57
Ultramar Diamond Shamrock Corp.	19.5	-0.95
Unicom Corporation	35.75	-1.72
Unilever N.V.	73.69	-1.26
Unilever Plc	40.0	0.63
Union Camp Corp.	63.69	-1.07
Union Carbide Corp. Hldg Co.	42.25	-0.88
Union Pacific Corp.	50.19	3.35
Union Pacific Resources Group	9.31	-8.59
Union Planters Corp.	44.19	-0.98
Unisys Corporation	31.63	-0.59
United Healthcare Corp.	52.44	1.33
United Technologies Corp.	126.63	-0.29
Unocal Corp.	30.69	0.61
Unum Corp.	45.63	2.1
US Airways Group Inc.	50.69	1.25
US West Inc.	55.75	0.45
USG Corp.	44.75	-6.53
UST Inc.	28.69	0.44
USX-Marathon Group Inc.	21.75	0.87
USX-U.S. Steel Group Inc.	23.44	-3.6
Valero Energy Corp.	18.13	1.75
Varian Associates Inc.	36.25	4.69
Venator Group Inc.	4.81	5.48
VF Corporation	48.19	-0.9
Viacom Inc.	88.69	0.57
Viacom Inc.	89.75	0.91
Vimrx Pharmaceuticals Inc.	1.18	0.0
Vishay Intertechnology Inc.	13.13	0.96
Vulcan Materials Co.	141.0	-1.01
Wachovia Corp.	88.25	0.93
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	93.56	0.13
Walgreen Co.	29.75	-2.28
Warner-Lambert Co.	72.19	2.39
Washington Gas Light Co.	23.75	-1.04
Washington Post	551.88	-1.45
Waste Management Inc.	49.88	1.53
Watkins-Johnson Company	25.0	-1.72
Weis Markets Inc.	38.75	0.34
Wells Fargo Company	37.94	-2.25
Wendy's International Inc.	26.69	-1.16
Westvaco Corp.	21.63	0.88
Weyerhaeuser Co.	53.88	2.25
Whirlpool Corp.	47.44	1.88
Whitman Corp.	18.5	-2.31
Williams Cos. Inc.	34.0	0.0
Winn-Dixie Stores Inc.	41.88	-3.6
Worthington Industries	12.83	0.0
Wrigley (WM.) JR Co.	91.31	-2.54
Xerox Corp.	55.56	-4.0
Yahoo Inc.	168.88	-2.09
Yellow Corporation	18.75	2.74

LONDON

Allied Domecq Plc	467.5	-0.92
Allied Zurich Plc	900.0	-1.42
Barclays Plc	1764.0	-1.4
British American Tobacco Plc	557.5	-2.62
British Telecom Plc	1073.0	1.37
Bass Plc	900.5	1.52
Boots Co. Plc	970.5	-0.05
British Airways Plc	433.5	-0.46
CGU Plc	923.5	-1.07
Diageo Plc	724.5	-1.29
General Electric Company Plc	582.5	0.72
Glaxo Wellcome Plc	1994.0	0.2
Halifax Plc	765.0	0.33
HSBC Holdings Plc	1905.0	1.83
Imperial Chemical Industries Plc	511.0	-1.73
Land Securities Plc	895.0	4.0
Lloyds TSB Group Plc	917.5	0.22
Lucasvarity Plc	264.75	0.0

Marks & Spencer Plc	389.0	1.57
National Westminster Bank Plc	1355.0	-0.44
Prudential Corporation Plc	821.5	0.55
Rentokil Initial Plc	379.75	4.04
Reuters Group Plc	902.5	0.36
Sainsbury (J) Plc	351.25	-0.42
Shell Transport & Trading Co.	367.75	0.14
Tyco International Ltd.	4450.0	0.0
Unilever Plc	615.5	0.57
Zeneca Group Plc	2517.0	1.49

PARIS

Accor SA	220.5	0.96
Air Liquide	135.8	-0.73
Alcatel SA	116.0	-0.94
Compagnie de Saint Gobain	147.0	-1.34
Euro Disney SCA	1.21	0.0
Michelin (C.G.D.E.)	39.5	2.33
Moulinex	10.6	0.0
Paribas	95.95	0.64
Pernod-Ricard	56.5	-2.42
PSA Peugeot Citroen	130.5	1.32

FRANKFURT

Bayer AG	32.62	0.06
DaimlerChrysler AG	82.4	-0.12
Deutsche Lufthansa AG	18.2	-1.79
Mannesmann AG	119.79	1.58
Metallgesellschaft AG	16.4	-1.8
Volkswagen AG	56.6	-0.35

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Israeli Shekel Fixings Co.	4.315	-0.651
Israeli Shekel Spot	4.005	-0.05
Gbp-Ils X-rate	0.154	0.672
Dem-Ils X-rate	0.448	-0.05
French Franc Spot	6.028	0.00
Japanese Yen Spot	121.055	0.636
Swiss Franc Spot	1.467	-0.225
Canadian Dollar Spot	1.519	-0.132
Italian Lira Spot	1777.863	0.00
Jordanian Dinar Spot	0.705	0.993

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

Dow Jones Indus. Avg.	9694.31	-0.34
Dow Jones Trans. Avg.	3300.65	0.38
Dow Jones Utilities Avg.	295.01	-1.41
Dow Jones Comp. Avg.	2970.53	-0.32
Nyse Industrials Index	748.52	-0.50
Nyse Transportation Indx	485.57	0.28
Nyse Composite Index	602.93	-0.19
S&p 100 Index	640.91	-0.34
S&p 500 Index	1279.84	-0.27
Tel Aviv 25 Index	342.38	-0.51

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

Ftse 100 Index	6237.7	0.5
Nikkei 225 Index	15096.7	2.1
Sing. Ses All Index	387.7	-0.6
Hang Seng Stock Index	10933.0	2.6
Tel Aviv 25 Index	342.4	-0.5
Cac 40 Index	4159.8	-0.4
Dax Index (Xetra)	4799.5	0.0
Spain Mx Madrid Index	883.2	0.5
Swiss Market Index New	7267.2	1.7
Aux All Ordinaries Indx	2928.8	-0.3
Milan Mib30 Index	36362.0	1.7
Bloomberg Commodity Index	GL.73.6	-0.1

US COMMODITIES

British Pound Spot	1.618	0.575
Bp Currency Glbx Jun99	160.640	-0.149
German Mark Spot	1.798	0.000
D-Mrk Curr Glbx Jun99	55.950	—
Swiss Franc Spot	1.467	-0.225
Sfr Curr Fut Glbx Jun99	68.840	—
Japanese Yen Spot	121.055	0.636
Jap Yen Cur Fut Glb Jun99	83.680	—
Canadian Dollar Spot	1.519	-0.132
C$ Currency Fut Mar99	65.860	-0.167
Australian Dollar Spot	0.639	0.585
A$ Curr Fut Glbx Jun99	63.500	1.115
French Franc Spot	6.023	0.000
Italian Lira Spot	1777.863	0.000
Dutch Guilder Spot	2.023	-0.005
Austrian Schilling Spot	12.635	0.000
S. African Rand Spot	6.184	0.146
Usd-Eur X-rate	1.089	0.000

LONDON COMMODITIES

Cocoa Future Mar99	1232.0	24
Coffee 'C' Future Mar99	104.4	1.25
Wheat Future(Cbt) Mar99	255.5	-1.92
Soybean Future Mar99	464.5	.38
Orange Juice Fut May99	82.9	-1.62
Crude Oil Futr Apr99	13.87	1.76
Us Long Bond(Cbt) Mar99	121.56	.62
S&p 500 Future Mar99	1281.2	-.18

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

Cocoa No. 7 (LB) Mar99	880.	0.8
Coffee Robusta(5) May99	1585.	1.
White Sugar (LB) May99	207.4	0.6
Brent Crude Futr Apr99	11.6	-1.7

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

Silver Spot Sloz	5.25	-.66

LONDON METAL FIXES

Gold Fixes Lo	291.9	1.18
Gold Fixes Lo	292.55	1.19
Silver Lo	5.32	1.33
Gold 100 Oz Futr Feb99	295.5	0.24
Silver Future Mar99	5.26	-0.91
Platinum Future Apr99	375.6	-0.79
Palladium Future Mar99	348.45	-0.24
Copper Future Mar99	62.4	0.65

(Source: Bloomberg)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Wednesday, March 10
EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 15 Agrippas, 624-3469; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Superpharm Dizengoff Center, 50 Dizengoff, 620-0975; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7-9 Amsterdam, 523-2383.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Margalit mall, Jabotinsky, Hod Hasharon, 740-8881.
Netanya: Narkis, Lev Yasmin Commercial Center, 884-1931.
Haifa: Super Pharm Neveh Sha'anan, 54 Trumpeldor, 823-2569.
Krayot area: Super Pharm Kiryon, 44 Hapalmah, Kiryat Bialik, 877-9320.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 954-9903. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, pediatrics, ENT); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, ophthalmology); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics, obstetrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	**100**
FIRE	**102**
FIRST AID	**101**

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 8551333	Kfar Sava* 9902222
Ashkelon 6551332	Nahariya* 9912333
Beersheba* 6274767	Netanya* 8604444
Beit Shemesh 6523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Rehovot* 9451333
Eilat* 6332444	Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 8512233	Safed 6920333
Jerusalem* 6523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 6792444

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

WHERE TO GO

WHERE TO GO
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HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah Installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. (02) 641-6333, (02) 677-6271.

TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Michal Na'aman – "Legion" – painting series; Hebrew graphics – from the Shamir Brothers studio. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Tony Oursler – installations. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Meyerhoff Art Education Center,** Tel. (03) 691-9155/8.

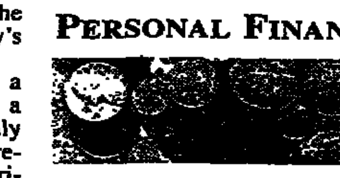
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Coping with Elbit Imaging's betrayal

By NEIL COHEN

PERSONAL FINANCE



Investors saw hefty profits as the TASE General Share Index has surged 6.5% in the two weeks ending Monday.

The people who have not profited are shareholders in Elbit Imaging. I was foolish enough to write two weeks ago that I thought there was still plenty to go for in the stock as the company's board seemed likely to reward shareholders for their patience with some kind of bounty, be it a special dividend or a share buyback, from the massive cash reserves built up from the sale of most of the company's activities.

While announcing a fairly modest dividend of $2 a share the board, and specifically the company's controlling shareholder Elron, decided to look primarily after themselves.

Elron agreed to sell its 37.7% stake in Elbit Imaging to Europe Israel, a real estate company controlled by entrepreneur Motti Zisser.

Overnight, shareholders in what was, or at least had been, a medical technology company with huge cash reserves found themselves minority shareholders in a real estate company whose cash reserves clearly were not going to be distributed to enrich them any time soon.

In the UK, anyone acquiring more than 29.9% of a company's shares is legally bound to offer to buy all the remaining shares (and, oversimplifying somewhat, at the highest price he has paid recently). This prevents just this type of transaction.

Worse, this was how the market read the Elbit deal and investors baled wholesale out of Elbit Imaging, driving the price down 14% in two days.

For my part, I am holding my nose and holding on to my shares in Elbit Imaging, just to wait for the $2 special dividend. I will certainly think very carefully before buying shares in any company with which Elron is associated again, since I will know that to them all shareholders are far from equal and there is a good chance they will sell me down the river.

The chief financial officer of Elron had the gall to make the following argument to *Haaretz* after the sale was announced. "By selling off the pieces of Elbit Imaging we drove the share price up from $5.5 to $10.

"With the $1 dividend that's been paid out on the way they've made out fine. It was tough for us to part with the assets and the company too."

I find it hard to believe that anyone would buy this kind of bull.

Looking at the Elbit share price over such a short period is just pulling the wool over people's eyes. For the last several years Elbit (prior to the demerger) was a terrible performer, destroying loads of shareholder value while the share price drifted painfully southwards.

Sure, the demerger created, or rather restored, some shareholder value.

And the sales to GE and Picker were at surprisingly good prices, so the share price rose, but so what? None of it excuses the betrayal in the endgame.

I have many times before warned investors to look not only in what they are investing but with whom. This is as good an example as any that it's high time company- or stock-market laws were tightened up to protect minority shareholders from this and other abuses to which controlling shareholders routinely subject them.

Otherwise, the market has surged violently of late, even before Wall Street entered record-breaking territory on Friday.

Some portion of the activity is attributable to foreign investors as some of the international investment houses that cover Israel have raised their investment ratings on TASE stocks.

However, the bulk of the sharp increase in turnover has been the result of local activity.

Interest rates have come down and with inflationary expectations dropping there is plenty of expectation that they will come down further. The bond market is saying that it expects inflation for the year to be a little over 5%.

It's not clear what effect, if any, the election season is having on the market. Commentators are mostly talking about cheaper money – bear in mind that interest rates in most of the developed markets are at rock bottom, one of the factors that has boosted international markets.

At the same time Israeli rates have remained high and the TASE has lagged behind most of its American and European counterparts. Big business would probably regard anything but a Netanyahu victory as a positive outcome and polls that are saying that both Barak and Mordechai would have a good chance of beating the current incumbent may be a factor in the recent rally. There may also be a sense, based on noises all the candidates are making at the moment, that whoever wins the election will move towards an accommodation with Syria, which will give the market significant cheer.

Either way, stocks are still largely inexpensive by international valuation standards – the big banks, for example, widely regarded as bellwethers for the TASE, are trading at high single-figure multiples and at, or close to, book value, while foreign banks tend to trade at two-to-three times book and earnings multiples in the high teens.

This said, while I intend to stay firmly committed to the market, as we have throughout the lives of the portfolios these last two-and-a-half years, I would use further strength to lighten up a little bit, taking some money out of the stocks we're less thrilled about.

I think the market isn't without some significant risks, most notably the prospect of Wall Street's boom turning bust and our own elections unsettling the markets, whether prior to or in the aftermath of what we're in for come May 17th.

The writer works in the investment industry and may hold positions in securities mentioned in the column. This column should not be taken as advice to buy, sell or continue to hold any securities and anyone acting on the advice of this column does so at his or her own risk.

Chief Scientist Berry mulls blocking deal

The chief scientist at the Trade and Industry Ministry, Orna Berry, is mulling ways to block the deal between Elron and entrepreneur Motti Zisser for the sale of Elbit Medical Imaging, senior government sources said yesterday.

Berry said that the company would be requested to either return to the government the state funding it received for R&D projects or make a commitment to continue and invest in further developing its technology activities.

Zisser expressed interest in the hi-tech company because of the high cash reserves it accumulated following the sale of two of its subsidiaries to foreign companies last year for a combined $375m.

Elscint, one of the subsidiaries sold, has received over the years some $76m. in R&D from the chief scientist.

The source said that after the sale Elscint CEO Emmanuel Gill has made a commitment to use a large part of the company's cash reserves to develop its R&D activity.

The ministry is currently studying all the legal aspects to see what can be done to block the deal, senior officials yesterday said.

Dan Gerstenfeld

NEIL'S PORTFOLIO

General Share Index as of 5.5.96: 172.89; 26.1.99: 264.58 — All money values in NIS unless otherwise noted

		No. of shares	Cost/share	Total cost	Current price	Current value
Conservative	Citrus Properties convertible	10,416.6	0.96	10,025	1.178	12,270.75
	Teva	8.51	1,035.60	8,810	1,666.00	14,172.66
	Bank Tefahot	4.97	1,303.34	6,481	1,875.00	9,323.063
	Clal Israel	143.68	69.60	10,025	93.5	13,433.99
	Dan Hotels	425.65	8.81	3,769	9.4	4,001.087
	Jafora Tabori	556.80	8.98	5,025	8.3	4,621.44
	Ytong	640.00	7.79	5,010	9.1	5,824.00
	IDB	1,432.66	3.49	5,025	3.65	5,229.209
	Koor	28.00	357.05	10,017	410	11,480.00
	Bezeq	625.00	12.00	7,520	13.88	8,675.00
	Elbit Imaging	125.31	39.90	5,020	39.2	4,912.152
	1 month cash deposit at 12%					65,967.73
	Total portfolio value			100,000		159,911.10
Aggressive	Lazaik Commercial ordinary	4,314.51	1.24	5,775	1.366	5,893.62
	Clal Electronics	16.31	283.28	4,641	640.00	10,440.32
	Tower Semiconductor	146.00	$5.75	3,292	$7.18	4,341.77
	Israel Chemicals	3,488.37	2.58	9,023	4.38	15,279.06
	Delek Motors	1,219.88	3.32	4,075	8.60	10,490.97
	Biotech General	224.00	$11.00	8,482	$6.63	6,002.78
	Discount Investments	120.00	81.62	9,819	136.30	16,356.00
	Israel Corporation	47.33	211.30	10,025	397	18,788.42
	A. Levy warrant	4,854.37	1.03	5,020	0.31	1,504.86
	MZPK	1,002.00	7.47	7,505	8.10	8,116.20
	ESC Medical	120.00	$21.44	9,950	$5.25	2,548.35
	Bank of Jerusalem	2,500.00	2.00	5,020	1.90	4,750.00
	United Mizrahi Bank	1,017.64	7.37	7,520	7.69	7,825.65
	1 month cash deposit at 12%					59,228.10
	Total portfolio value			100,000		171,466.10
Defensive	AlRov4 convertible	5,847.95	.86	5,020	.83	4,853.80
	ZorShamir3 convertible	5,208.33	.96	5,020	1.028	5,354.16
	Granit 1 convertible	3,501.40	1.43	5,020	1.557	5,451.68
	Poalim Inv. Conv. 1	3,584.23	1.40	5,020	1.4	5,017.92
	1 Month deposit					97,088.91
	Total portfolio value			100,000		117,766.50

THE BUSINESS SCENE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



El Al CEO **Yoel Feldshuh** (center) had barely taken delivery of the first of the company's five new Boeing 737 - 800 carriers, when El Al staff imposed work sanctions. Staff problems have not been allowed to mar El Al's pleasure in upgrading its fleet. Flanking Feldshuh on his left is Boeing vice president **Tom Shick** (right) who heads his company's civil aviation division, and on his right **Tom Basacchi** Boeing sales manager for Europe and Russia.

The law which states that women should get equal pay for equal work (to that of men) is a very good law. Communications Minister **Limor Livnat** told the Forum of Female Industrial Managers at their convention at the Radisson Moriah, Tel Aviv. The problem, she said, is that the law is not being properly implemented, and that women are often earning as much as 30% less than men who are doing the same jobs. Nonetheless she emphasized, the fact that hundreds of women occupy senior managerial positions proves that women have achieved something in this country and that their sphere of influence is growing. Livnat lamented the fact that she is the only female minister in the present government. "Aside from me, the only other woman at cabinet meetings is the stenographer – and for part of the meeting, there's also the tea lady."

Chinese ambassador **Wang Changyi** got his fill of oranges, lemons and grapefruit, when as guest of the Citrus Marketing Board, he was given a tour of orchards, packing and shipping stations. After literally tasting the fruit from the tree, the ambassador was hopeful that a trial run of 500 tons of citrus exports from Israel to China would develop into a permanent trade relationship.

Yoram Gordon, general manager of the Four Points Sheraton Jerusalem, has been elected vice chairman of the Jerusalem Hotel Association. Gordon 60, has a rich background in hotel management. Some of the hotels which he has managed in the past include the Tel Aviv Country Club hotel, the Dan Carmel, Haifa, the Dan Accadia, Herzliya, the Laromme Jerusalem, the Moriah Plaza on the Dead Sea and several others.

Meir Moskovitz has been appointed managing director of Intra-Tech Computing Systems Ltd, a member of the E&M Computing Group. Moskovitz, 40, who has a B.Sc degree in industrial engineering from Ben-Gurion University was previously sales manager for Oracle Applications ERP solutions at Oracle Israel and sales manager for commercial and finance markets at Digital Israel.

E&M Computing, the local distributor for Sun Microsystems and Compaq, has announced the appointment of **David Milo** as telecom sales manager. Until recently, Milo who has a BA along with degrees in mathematics and computer science from Tel Aviv University, managed the sales and marketing division of Elad Systems. Before that, he worked for IBM Israel and managed its Jerusalem branch.

Metuna, the organization for road safety has a new president in the person of **Dr. Jakov Adler** the former head of the emergency room at Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem. Adler, who recently returned from New York where he headed the Medical Support Unit of the UN Peacekeeping Mission, takes up his new post in time to chair Metuna's annual general meeting at the Cinematheque Jerusalem on March 18. Another prominent physician, Professor **Yehuda Shoenfeld** head of Internal Medicine B, at Sheba Medical Center has joined Metuna's prestigious advisory board.

MUTUAL FUNDS

FLEXIBLE

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Abir	250.91	250.17	+2.60	+2.58	12.0 </p>
Adar Flexible	110.55	109.28	+1.89	+0.62	25.6 </p>
Afikim Flexible	219.07	216.41	+3.00	+2.52	13.5 </p>
Ahrayut Flexible	509.73	500.75	+5.47	+7.53	2.0 </p>
Alomot Flexible	114.37	112.45	+3.29	+4.63	11.6 </p>
Analyst Deversified	864.38	844.78	+4.40	+3.86	65.5 </p>
Apex Flexible	192.71	192.25	+0.25	+0.53	52.9 </p>
Arximedes	107.13	105.29	+4.51	+6.44	1.1 </p>
Avuka	2097.67	2091.99	+4.88	+6.29	5.0 </p>
Bloch Rotstein Flexible	246.22	241.13	+6.81	+7.27	27.1 </p>
Clali Flexible	1221.61	1208.21	+4.45	+5.35	4.2 </p>
Dikla Mamon	281.64	279.45	+4.40	+8.55	20.2 </p>
Dikla Meirav	197.18	196.52	+4.60	+7.36	9.3 </p>
Dikla Moked	3618.17	3588.65	+3.73	+6.38	63.3 </p>
Dovrat Shrem Flexible	171.82	168.38	+3.41	+2.93	20.4 </p>
Effective Flexible	54.88	54.54	—	—	0.6 </p>
Emda Flexible Fund	4072.58	4036.92	+3.06	+5.68	26.6 </p>
Epsilon Flexible	169.79	169.33	+3.68	+5.57	8.2 </p>
Evergreen Flexible	128.20	127.17	+6.21	+5.71	6.8 </p>
Excellence Flexible	3406.93	3365.75	+3.76	+2.99	9.8 </p>
Gal'or Flexible	106.52	106.18	+1.47	+4.81	2.0 </p>
Igud Bonds	109.08	108.61	+1.23	-1.59	1.9 </p>
Igud Flexible	192.94	191.91	+2.72	+6.56	18.9 </p>
Igud Shiklit	148.63	148.63	+0.11	+0.66	172.1 </p>
Ilanot 30 Plus	163.56	160.56	+6.74	+4.82	2.6 </p>
Ilanot 90	266.94	262.22	+5.58	+4.86	18.0 </p>
Ilanot Shidim Atid	2596.92	2596.92	+0.26	+1.63	15.3 </p>
Ilanot Tidhar	3457.13	3449.66	+3.98	+3.51	63.0 </p>
Kivun Flexible	119.22	118.17	+5.95	-0.19	4.2 </p>
Lahak Flexible	794.90	780.84	+4.68	+4.20	60.3 </p>
Lamashkia	—	—	—	—	5.5 </p>
Maofim Bonds	109.81	108.55	+0.80	+0.90	6.4 </p>
Maofim Flexible	132.38	130.03	+4.89	+3.91	5.9 </p>
Maritime Flexible Fund	106.85	104.92	+4.65	+4.69	9.9 </p>
Meitav Flexible	183.47	182.00	+3.33	+1.78	3.4 </p>
Models Flexible	120.55	118.26	+6.15	+7.29	16.9 </p>
Models Tsuza	110.91	109.57	+7.08	+8.64	4.9 </p>
Moritz Money Market	151.24	151.24	+0.49	+2.64	15.3 </p>
Nesua Zanex Flexible	2683.90	2669.76	+4.72	+6.14	9.3 </p>
Netz	66.21	66.06	+2.13	-18.56	0.2 </p>
Noga	967.30	955.34	+1.77	+1.29	45.0 </p>
Omer Pekan	195.53	192.06	+3.19	+1.53	14.9 </p>
Otzar Flexible	110.70	108.75	+4.26	+1.80	3.4 </p>
Pekan Saar Flexible Fund	230.13	229.46	+4.39	+6.24	191.0 </p>
Pia Hayovel	254.15	253.43	+5.43	+7.56	50.2 </p>
Pia Kela	1038.68	1033.71	+5.91	+6.93	278.4 </p>
Psagot Gamish	621.24	610.21	+5.92	+6.89	118.5 </p>
Psagot Megama	358.62	356.65	+5.61	+6.18	61.5 </p>
Ramco Flexible	197.07	194.73	+3.66	+2.73	8.8 </p>
Sigma Flexible	112.39	111.30	+10.20	+12.97	6.9 </p>
Sivan	279.34	275.73	+5.31	+4.89	44.4 </p>
Telescope	117.34	117.16	+5.11	+8.07	1.0 </p>
Yesodot	3343.93	3284.89	+4.89	+4.67	26.5 </p>
Zeller Flexible	82.48	81.59	+3.16	+2.98	2.8 </p>
Zion Flexible	14016.80	13865.94	+6.39	+8.93	5.7 </p>

SHARES

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Adif Pekan	123.05	120.87	+2.96	+3.79	24.7 </p>
Afikim Shares	298000000000000000000000000000.10	294.41	+3.67	+2.41	11.9 </p>
Ahrayut Oil & Shares	133.22	130.58	-0.96	-8.63	1.3 </p>
Ahrayut Real Estate	223.49	219.02	+3.65	+3.03	8.1 </p>
Ahrayut Shares	336.82	330.87	+4.90	+8.75	2.2 </p>
Alomot Growth	102.60	100.82	+7.37	+7.39	0.9 </p>
Analyst Aggressive	176.88	172.78	+5.84	+6.06	42.4 </p>
Analyst Equity	1430.69	1398.22	+5.40	+6.62	146.4 </p>
Analyst Industries	443.06	433.09	+5.43	+6.90	61.0 </p>
Apex Shares	128.89	128.57	+1.89	+3.53	15.0 </p>
Atlas Pekan	—	—	—	—	26.4 </p>
Baron	241.81	237.46	+5.06	+6.19	9.6 </p>
Bloch Rotstein Shares	129.16	126.55	+6.37	+7.09	14.5 </p>
Capital Shares	117.16	115.70	+8.64	+10.17	4.5 </p>
Chemical Pekan	136.80	136.37	+2.81	+5.34	5.7 </p>
Clali Maof	271.91	271.16	+8.43	+11.31	11.2 </p>
Clali Shares & Conv.	170.94	169.05	-5.47	+8.20	1.9 </p>
Dikla Margal	103.42	102.59	+6.06	+7.00	8.9 </p>
Dikla Madad Maof	232.89	231.65	+7.92	+10.95	68.3 </p>
Dikla Meratz	583.30	578.54	+5.20	+9.46	55.2 </p>
Dikla Miftan	94.72	94.00	+4.18	-0.88	11.2 </p>
Dikla Migzar Finance	129.02	127.98	+8.69	+6.97	22.2 </p>
Dikla Makad 30	77.44	76.82	+4.87	+10.47	27.7 </p>
Dikla Mivneh	356.50	353.74	+4.89	-0.59	19.7 </p>
Dikla Mondial	—	—	—	—	19.7 </p>
Dikla Mor	1721.30	1707.48	+5.39	+8.82	75.8 </p>
Dovrat Shrem 100	111.38	109.11	+5.31	+5.09	9.6 </p>
Dovrat Shrem Yeter	118.88	116.44	+3.76	+3.81	8.9 </p>
Emda Export	95.79	94.65	+5.04	+10.05	9.7 </p>
Emda High Tech	—	—	—	—	7.9 </p>
Emda Maof	243.77	242.04	+8.24	+11.55	33.3 </p>
Emda Paz	194.48	192.60	+5.77	+7.31	10.9 </p>
Emda Shacharit	177.81	176.48	+4.96	+8.43	13.1 </p>
Emda T-A 100	2266.66	2243.82	+6.14	+9.51	45.3 </p>
Emda Yeter	1585.05	1569.01	+3.97	+3.32	18.3 </p>
Epsilon 36	113.99	113.61	+6.41	+8.67	23.2 </p>
Epsilon Shares	198.27	195.65	+5.07	+6.47	11.1 </p>
Epsilon Technologies	—	—	—	—	12.6 </p>
Erez Pekan	405.31	404.09	+6.73	+8.76	159.1 </p>
Esh	643.76	631.63	+5.08	+8.06	1.9 </p>
Evergreen High Tech	—	—	—	—	12.0 </p>
Evergreen Shares	169.89	168.50	+6.50	+4.09	14.0 </p>
Excellence Agresive	284.35	281.46	+4.11	+1.21	8.2 </p>
Excellence Shares	690.34	686.87	+6.36	+4.86	7.1 </p>
Eyal Shares	136.57	136.57	+5.57	+6.42	4.8 </p>
Gal	129.76	128.11	+7.03	+7.91	13.6 </p>
Hon Pekan	110.32	108.38	+6.70	+6.44	39.8 </p>
Igud Maof	105.72	105.30	+7.87	+10.84	4.4 </p>
Igud Shares	158.44	157.61	+3.36	+2.19	7.0 </p>
Igud Yeter	103.03	102.53	+2.64	+0.79	3.3 </p>
Ilanot Caramim	159.52	158.30	+4.20	+4.31	39.8 </p>
Ilanot Communication	116.82	114.80	+2.59	+4.26	45.0 </p>
Ilanot Dekel	3409.10	3350.68	+5.87	+5.73	80.2 </p>
Ilanot Finance	95.13	93.43	+6.67	+4.32	9.0 </p>
Ilanot Globe	—	—	—	—	10.5 </p>
Ilanot Maof	231.07	230.04	+8.42	+11.51	61.6 </p>
Ilanot Nadlan	1512.70	1501.30	+4.89	-3.68	24.8 </p>
Ilanot Nimrezet	82.81	82.13	+5.04	+4.33	3.9 </p>
Ilanot Shares	5300.46	5204.95	+4.63	+7.86	8.1 </p>
Ilanot Shchakim	57.35	56.38	+7.19	+10.14	11.3 </p>
Ilanot Shesek	976.79	959.76	+5.21	+4.25	80.4 </p>
Ilanot T-A 100	3062.80	3047.06	+6.28	+8.04	72.7 </p>
Israel America	—	—	—	—	0.8 </p>
Jerusalem Maof	1713.11	1712.60	+8.01	+10.65	6.3 </p>
Kohav Pekan	192.01	188.58	+6.77	+7.32	85.9 </p>
Koor Money Market	140.85	140.85	+0.41	+2.47	110.0 </p>
Koor Shares	104.07	102.78	+6.49	+6.27	6.1 </p>
Lahak Agresivit Plus	87.81	86.33	+9.86	+12.16	14.5 </p>
Lahak Ankor	908.75	886.26	+5.96	+7.59	30.5 </p>
Lahak Dividends	367.12	366.12	+5.88	+7.94	54.1 </p>
Lahak Menayot 30	107.78	107.45	+6.14	+9.84	32.8 </p>
Lahak Menayot Yeter	97.33	96.59	+4.44	+0.57	13.0 </p>
Lahak Nadlan	135.60	133.22	+5.90	+2.77	24.9 </p>
Lahak TA-Wall Street	—	—	—	—	15.8 </p>
Lahak Tor 100	479.13	470.73	+6.99	+9.16	65.3 </p>
Lahak Yetsu	85.50	85.24	+4.58	+8.95	35.7 </p>
Lahak Zamir	876.61	861.02	+5.39	+6.44	43.0 </p>
Maale Maof Pekan	208.71	205.04	+7.38	+9.79	57.6 </p>
Magic	275.55	270.70	+3.34	-0.59	7.0 </p>
Martingale Dynamit	—	—	—	—	11.4 </p>
Meitav High Tech	—	—	—	—	2.2 </p>
Meitav Options	52.72	51.91	+13.51	+9.58	8.7 </p>
Meitav Shares	248.40	246.31	+8.14	+8.98	6.1 </p>
Meitav Tsuza	125.60	124.57	+5.25	+6.00	4.5 </p>
Mercazit Maof	213.99	213.54	+8.18	+10.89	2.0 </p>
Mercazit TA 100	271.77	270.89	+6.68	+9.06	2.5 </p>
Necha Continental	62.84	61.71	+4.74	+3.96	10.0 </p>
Nesua Zanex Shares	484.81	481.91	+4.82	+6.27	5.0 </p>
Nili T-A 100	1149.23	1134.45	+6.91	+8.37	15.1 </p>
Omega	131.29	129.00	+2.21	+5.27	1.6 </p>
Otzar Foreign Int. Par.	163.20	160.32	+5.18	+5.36	1.9 </p>
Otzar Shares	126.00	123.82	+5.23	+4.38	5.7 </p>
Otzar Yeter	88.74	87.19	+2.42	-0.39	2.9 </p>
Pekan Communication	111.22	110.87	+4.63	—	4.8 </p>
Pekan T-A 100	181.83	178.63	+6.60	+8.49	58.0 </p>
Pia 2000	99.63	99.34	+4.36	+3.94	18.5 </p>
Pia Bdolach T-A 100	1124.72	1121.88	+6.41	+9.75	75.6 </p>
Pia Manof	146.65	146.24	+8.41	+11.39	24.3 </p>
Pia Maof	218.74	218.71	+7.62	+10.46	80.9 </p>
Pia Michlol	905.86	903.42	+6.79	+7.84	128.0 </p>
Pia Odem	1411.60	1407.46	+8.74	+8.18	159.3 </p>
Pia Olamit	—	—	—	—	36.4 </p>
Pia Yahalom	1197.52	1193.99	+4.90	+2.59	60.9 </p>
Pia Zinuk	68.93	68.74	+4.15	+6.39	25.1 </p>
Pritza	—	—	—	—	0.8 </p>
Psagot 20	93.72	92.06	+5.78	+8.73	100.9 </p>
Psagot Al.	80.00	78.58	+6.78	+8.05	18.2 </p>
Psagot Focus	118.48	117.82	+4.78	+6.88	71.5 </p>
Psagot High Tech	—	—	—	—	35.3 </p>
Psagot Mabat Leshalom	146.11	143.53	+5.09	+6.82	35.9 </p>
Psagot Menayot	900.08	884.12	+5.60	+4.71	125.4 </p>
Psagot T-A 100	406.43	404.20	+5.25	+6.43	205.2 </p>
Psagot Yeter	196.69	195.18	+6.28	+6.17	35.6 </p>
Raam 90	139.01	136.53	+11.36	+13.83	4.4 </p>
Ramco Shares	141.49	139.85	+5.92	+32.24	4.0 </p>
Sigma Nivheret	169.34	167.08	+6.55	+4.74	3.0 </p>
Simodan Shares & Conv.	77.65	76.67	+7.89	+9.84	0.5 </p>
Singer Barnea Financial	117.07	115.03	+6.98	+3.43	0.5 </p>
Singer Barnea Shmura	151.12	150.71	+7.71	+6.80	1.7 </p>
Tamir Fishman Tamiha	—	—	—	—	9.6 </p>
Tsuot Sula	160.54	158.12	+2.84	+4.32	28.1 </p>
Yaar	22.96	22.91	-0.52	-23.86	0.1 </p>
Zik	350.94	349.95	+5.48	+6.94	2.5 </p>
Zion Shares	150.27	149.47	+6.99	+10.76	2.3 </p>
Zion Yeter	82.82	82.57	+5.44	+6.73	2.9 </p>

STATE BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Ahrayut State Bonds	478.47	472.82	+0.23	+0.19	6.2 </p>
Almog Pekan	282.68	277.67	+1.21	+1.81	82.4 </p>
Alomot Bonds	103.08	101.44	+0.59	—	10.8 </p>
Analyst Government Bonds	444.37	438.67	+1.78	+1.67	29.3 </p>
Clali Dotan	1327.56	1320.58	+0.88	+0.21	3.4 </p>
Clali State Bonds	495.48	492.72	+1.32	+0.60	3.4 </p>
Dikla Marom	6785.39	6745.12	+0.79	+2.02	30.2 </p>
Dikla Mivtah	1836.36	1823.87	+0.76	-0.20	38.4 </p>
Ducas	274.43	273.71	+0.39	+0.97	17.7 </p>
Emda Goverment Bond	1163.52	1155.00	+0.41	-0.26	63.6 </p>
Emda Lashem	1528.27	1513.25	+1.06	+0.93	26.2 </p>
Emda Sella	1482.88	1472.18	+0.82	+1.52	45.4 </p>
Epsilon Gov't Bonds	225.67	225.33	+0.91	+2.06	40.0 </p>
Geva	447.08	441.63	+0.81	+0.96	88.4 </p>
Hila Pekan	579.22	579.22	+0.32	-0.61	199.3 </p>
Ilanot Egoz	1257.37	1249.28	-0.17	-0.72	72.7 </p>
Ilanot Tapuah	715.15	712.22	+0.58	+0.31	17.3 </p>
Ilanot Tapuz	1163.63	1155.88	+0.82	+0.75	86.0 </p>
Lahak Gov't Bonds	762.33	762.33	+0.24	+1.26	152.5 </p>
Lahak Mehalekel	149.41	149.11	+1.33	+2.36	56.4 </p>
Lahak Zmudim An[illegible]m	576.88	575.32	+0.79	+0.89	42.7 </p>
Maritime Government Bond	170.62	168.39	+1.43	+0.56	13.7 </p>
Meitav Gov't Bonds	135.39	134.69	+1.32	+1.29	16.9 </p>
Mekorit Pekan	122.86	122.50	+0.62	+0.63	19.4 </p>
Mercazit Gov't Bonds	168.22	167.03	+1.16	+1.82	4.7 </p>
Nesua Zanex Gov't Bonds	1487.17	1484.91	+0.71	+1.37	42.4 </p>
Otzar Gov't Bonds	167.34	164.38	+1.37	+1.24	14.4 </p>
Pia Conv' Bonds 50	264.57	262.51	+0.99	+0.94	53.6 </p>
Pia Tarshish	138.86	136.43	+1.06	+1.06	227.5 </p>
Pia Zamid	5173.76	5083.00	+2.12	+2.30	146.0 </p>
Psagot Agach	639.31	628.40	+1.61	+2.66	41.8 </p>
Psagot Maala	483.21	479.70	+1.70	+3.02	52.6 </p>
Psagot Madad	613.94	603.22	+1.36	+1.89	90.6 </p>
Shavit Pekan	780.71	766.90	-0.21	-1.07	158.3 </p>
Yaara Pekan	631.74	620.58	+0.73	+1.27	77.8 </p>
Yevul Pekan	824.68	822.24	+1.67	+2.10	155.5 </p>
Ziv	679.92	671.29	+0.50	-0.37	42.0 </p>
Zohar	557.93	550.96	+1.21	+0.85	36.5 </p>

COMPANY BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Bonds	351.51	347.40	+0.72	+0.09	35.8 </p>
Ahrayut Bonds	209.87	206.19	+0.42	+0.32	3.7 </p>
Amsim	143.79	142.71	+1.25	+1.09	22.9 </p>
Analyst Corporate Bonds	313.97	308.42	+2.54	+2.34	85.1 </p>
Analyst Money Market	170.47	170.00	+0.41	+1.71	9.5 </p>
Apex Tsua	157.83	157.51	-0.28	-0.04	125.2 </p>
Bloch Rotstein Bonds	175.43	174.01	+1.33	+2.23	13.4 </p>
Bond	172.38	171.09	+3.88	+4.62	7.3 </p>
Capital Bonds	161.41	160.24	+0.63	+0.30	8.1 </p>
Clal Company Debentures	224.41	223.10	+1.58	+1.35	2.4 </p>
Clali Gen' Bond Rating	110.59	109.95	+0.75	+0.34	9.0 </p>
Clali Zmina	190.35	190.35	+0.42	+1.99	24.4 </p>
Dikla Maayan	969.12	962.14	+1.03	+1.56	48.1 </p>
Dikla Magen Plus	109.92	109.92	+0.37	+1.94	109.0 </p>
Dikla Maskoret Plus	158.41	158.41	+0.41	+2.14	354.9 </p>
Dikla Meimad	513.85	509.62	+0.58	-0.86	45.1 </p>
Dikla Mirvah	645.70	640.57	+1.69	+2.07	17.1 </p>
Dikla Mivhar	631.39	627.07	+0.40	+0.94	42.4 </p>
Dikla Nigvan	2158.41	2142.63	+1.71	+2.36	78.8 </p>
Dovrat Shrem Bonds	179.93	177.24	+1.30	+1.49	46.0 </p>
Emda Dynamit Magen	116.62	116.62	+0.29	+2.16	39.9 </p>
Emda Halamish	148.02	146.54	+0.87	+1.39	14.4 </p>
Emda Hamara	1190.09	1178.24	+1.86	+3.37	40.8 </p>
Emda Shiklit	109.56	109.56	+0.40	+2.15	417.2 </p>
Epsilon Corp. Bonds	132.84	132.49	+1.74	+2.13	9.5 </p>
Epsilon Money Market	161.08	161.08	+0.39	+2.18	151.8 </p>
Evergreen Shkoola	170.43	169.53	+2.49	+2.15	30.9 </p>
Excellence Bonds	2338.10	2306.85	+0.94	+0.62	21.0 </p>
Eyal Bonds	157.57	157.57	+1.32	+2.15	3.4 </p>
Eyal Shotef	151.69	151.69	+0.40	+2.26	16.6 </p>
Guy	769.36	760.18	+1.95	+1.43	101.6 </p>
Hertz Pekan	655.49	655.49	+0.52	+2.31	939.5 </p>
I.B.I Shkalim	161.80	161.80	+0.46	+1.97	123.9 </p>
Igud Magen Shiklit	102.44	102.44	-0.02	+0.08	3.6 </p>
Ilanot Agas	483.92	480.63	+0.94	+0.86	40.8 </p>
Ilanot Alon	2098.20	2084.77	+0.22	-0.28	40.9 </p>
Ilanot Armon	140.67	139.88	+0.42	+0.68	20.9 </p>
Ilanot Conv'bonds	3455.82	3432.48	+0.85	+0.86	7.2 </p>
Ilanot Eshel	857.08	851.44	+1.40	+1.57	85.2 </p>
Ilanot Etrog	1178.51	1170.64	+1.25	+1.42	55.9 </p>
Ilanot Mivtahei	112.93	112.93	+0.67	+1.80	24.4 </p>
Ilanot Oren	4391.98	4363.22	+1.65	+2.05	110.9 </p>
Ilanot Orion	188.59	187.33	+0.39	-0.49	27.1 </p>
Ilanot Rimon	606.74	606.74	+0.36	+2.00	****** </p>
Ilanot Shahar	255.16	254.06	+0.57	-0.15	29.7 </p>
Ilanot Shaked	234.93	233.49	+0.38	+0.09	37.3 </p>
Ilanot Shkoola	180.49	179.67	+1.11	+1.35	37.4 </p>
Jerusalem Shiklit	101.99	101.99	+0.38	+1.85	33.5 </p>
Koor Amnar Bonds	227.55	227.04	+0.41	-0.60	24.6 </p>
Koor Difender	104.32	104.32	+0.22	+1.80	21.3 </p>
Lahak Conv. Bonds	257.49	257.49	+1.91	+1.73	65.2 </p>
Lahak Magen 95%	167.15	167.15	+1.14	+2.93	83.7 </p>
Lahak Money Market	101.64	101.64	+0.29	—	340.8 </p>
Lahak Shkalim	105.59	105.59	+0.64	+2.54	272.8 </p>
Lahak Yasoor	202.84	202.84	+0.41	+2.21	1131 </p>
Malkarit Pekan	363.86	362.86	+2.78	+4.48	26.0 </p>
Maritime Conv' Bonds	109.93	106.03	+2.77	+4.14	1.7 </p>
Meitav Corp. Conv. Bonds	166.75	165.83	+1.74	+1.07	15.1 </p>
Meitav Money Market	128.93	128.93	+0.31	+2.46	22.2 </p>
Mercazit Conv. Bonds	513.17	511.70	+1.74	+2.28	3.1 </p>
Mercazit Shiklit Gambo	104.44	104.44	+0.39	+2.23	20.9 </p>
Models Shmura	119.00	117.82	+1.67	+1.60	14.2 </p>
Nesua Zanex Corp' Bonds	195.72	194.79	+1.22	+2.49	10.2 </p>
Otzar Shkalim	144.19	144.19	+0.49	+2.09	82.2 </p>
Pekan Corporate Bonds	479.03	470.64	+0.73	+1.57	29.9 </p>
Pia Halifin	579.71	579.71	+0.51	+2.30	447.6 </p>
Pia Mogenei	110.73	110.73	+0.24	+1.93	57.3 </p>
Pia Money Market	102.31	102.31	+0.29	+2.28	276.9 </p>
Pia Ophir	646.18	642.78	+1.19	+0.21	124.4 </p>
Pia Or	1268.06	1245.75	+2.13	+2.59	105.5 </p>
Pia Segula	286.97	281.99	+1.06	+0.42	48.5 </p>
Pia Shamir	1407.97	1383.16	+1.51	+1.51	109.9 </p>
Pia Shkalim Adif	113.20	113.18	+0.32	+0.96	662.1 </p>
Pia Trufa	418.16	410.84	+2.01	+2.75	23.5 </p>
Pia Yozma	249.80	245.39	+2.23	+2.19	23.9 </p>
Pil	312.51	309.54	+1.25	+1.93	3.6 </p>
Psagot Hagana Plus	114.10	114.10	+0.62	+2.48	81.6 </p>
Psagot Kol Rega	248.97	248.97	+0.57	+2.37	993 </p>
Psagot Shekel Active	100.75	100.75	+0.54	—	199.6 </p>
Psagot Tashlumim	101.03	99.26	+0.61	-0.37	28.2 </p>
Psagot Yetsira	643.81	640.50	+2.55	+3.35	175.5 </p>
Ramco Bonds	106.58	105.84	+0.53	+1.83	12.0 </p>
Simodan Bonds	103.48	101.72	+1.53	-0.14	0.9 </p>
Simodan Interest	156.83	156.83	+0.32	+2.07	20.0 </p>
Tsuot Hen	192.52	191.43	+1.48	+2.26	35.6 </p>
Zeller Conv. Bonds	106.57	106.02	-0.84	+1.83	0.5 </p>
Zion Bonds	2129.83	2118.72	+1.93	+2.43	4.3 </p>
Zion Gov't Bonds	117.60	117.36	+1.21	+2.27	9.5 </p>

FOREIGN CURRENCY

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Foreign	—	—	—	—	28.9 </p>
Alomot Foreign Currency	114.38	113.64	-0.28	-1.83	13.3 </p>
Analyst Europe	—	—	—	—	23.9 </p>
Capital Foreign	—	—	—	—	1.7 </p>
Dikla Meged	1123.20	1114.41	-0.05	-3.13	52.0 </p>
Dollar	—	—	—	—	6.7 </p>
Emda Matach	373.11	371.21	-0.30	-3.12	40.9 </p>
Emda Tevel	—	—	—	—	47.8 </p>
Igud Foreign Currency	108.94	108.61	-0.08	-5.17	8.8 </p>
Ilanot Dolev	1016.32	1012.00	+0.03	-2.21	101.2 </p>
Ilanot Hul	—	—	—	—	60.0 </p>
Ilanot Ilan $	—	—	—	—	44.9 </p>
Ilanot Matach	254.51	254.51	-0.52	-3.05	82.4 </p>
Koor Currency Sal	—	—	—	—	9.4 </p>
Lahak Cosmos $	—	—	—	—	11.2 </p>
Lahak Kahal	—	—	—	—	59.5 </p>
Lahak Matach	671.33	671.33	-0.35	-3.42	310.8 </p>
Meitav Foreign Currency	340.31	339.37	+0.69	-1.63	17.1 </p>
Moriah Pekan $	—	—	—	—	14.8 </p>
Nesua Zanex Foreign Curr	98.02	98.02	-0.24	-1.94	8.1 </p>
Otzar Foreign Currency	156.93	156.93	+0.20	-2.26	19.2 </p>
Pekan Inbal Matach	200.24	200.24	-0.29	-2.87	440.6 </p>
Pia Chul	—	—	—	—	115.1 </p>
Pia Inbar	125.21	123.00	-0.08	-3.16	294.7 </p>
Pia Prime $	—	—	—	—	33.9 </p>
Pia Target $	—	—	—	—	127.5 </p>
Psagot Chul	—	—	—	—	65.4 </p>
Psagot Globe $	—	—	—	—	59.8 </p>
Psagot Israel Horizon	—	—	—	—	49.0 </p>
Psagot Matah	607.00	596.21	-0.31	-3.40	185.1 </p>
Reshet Pekan	—	—	—	—	49.7 </p>
Rosen Continental	—	—	—	—	19.2 </p>
Tsaber Pekan	389.99	383.08	+0.50	-1.27	28.1 </p>

MIXED

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Eitan Pekan	384.44	377.65	+2.39	+3.26	82.0 </p>
Emda Kolelet	241.39	238.93	+1.37	+1.21	61.5 </p>
Goren Pekan	818.75	816.26	+1.78	+1.31	163.4 </p>
Ilanot Barak	3163.84	3110.30	+4.14	+4.66	34.4 </p>
Ilanot Brosh	3585.89	3569.13	+2.32	+2.54	62.8 </p>
Ilanot Mixed	3162.21	3105.11	+4.42	+4.42	5.5 </p>
Lahak Tzofit	830.10	827.91	+2.65	+3.39	139.0 </p>
Mad Dikla	150.61	150.38	+1.75	+2.61	15.7 </p>
Pekan Shiklit Meshulevet	92.05	92.05	+0.47	+1.09	119.1 </p>
Pia	9322.34	9161.27	+4.26	+5.47	155.8 </p>
Pia Gavish	7590.14	7458.91	+2.24	+0.99	212.6 </p>
Psagot Meshulevet	792.61	778.76	+3.91	+5.20	64.5 </p>

SOURCE: MEITAV Ltd - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments
DATE 07-Mar-99

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Scharf promises win in Bucharest

By ORI LEWIS

National soccer coach Shlomo Scharf has insisted that he will not accept a loss to hosts Romania in Bucharest tonight (kickoff 19:00 live on Channel 1).

The national team play their last warmup match before taking on Cyprus in European Championship qualifying play later this month. Israel will try to repeat their 1-0 victory from exactly a year ago in Bucharest when Alon Mizrahi scored for the visitors. Today, however, Mizrahi will not be present and neither will the in-form Haim Revivo, who is injured.

Scharf has opted for a cautious lineup, and will play with three full backs and only one striker in the shape of Ronnen Harazi. The Romanians, for their part, will miss Chelsea's wing-back Dan Petrescu, who was injured in the FA Cup quarterfinal with Manchester United on Sunday.

Israel's expected starting lineup is: Nir Davidovich; Alon Harazi, Ran Ben-Shimon, Arik Benado, Amir Shelah, Najwan Grayeb, Walid Bdir, Tal Banin, Eyal Berkovic, Idan Tal, Ronnen Harazi.

Last night, the under-21 side were threshed 3-0 by their Romanian counterparts, Hapoel Haifa's Dudu Awat conceding all three goals.

In Cadiz, Spain this evening, the under-18 side take on the hosts in the second match of their European Championship qualifying campaign. (kickoff 18:45 live on cable TV's Spanish channel).

STATE CUP

Continued from Page 20

On Monday, Jerusalem chairman Danny Klein announced in no uncertain terms that his club would not turn up for the final if it was to be played at Yad Eliahu.

The IBA issued a statement saying that Hapoel Jerusalem would have to face the consequences of their actions if the boycott went ahead, and that the club would be faced with having to pay full financial compensation to all the bodies who would lose out.

Kesten broke the news of the compromise to a packed room of media representatives at the organization's headquarters in Tel Aviv last night. "The State Cup final will take place at Yad Eliahu as planned next Thursday. I call on the fans, both from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv to fill the stadium and enjoy the highlight event of the Israeli basketball season," he said. Kesten explained that there was not enough time to make changes. "It is just 10 days before the game, we won't change the venue now," he insisted.

Once that announcement had been made, proceedings took on a distinctly calmer tone. While admitting that it was too late to make any changes this season, Klein hailed the compromise as a victory for the smaller clubs and for Israeli sport.

"If we have managed to bring about a change a move the games to neutral venues, then I think Hapoel Jerusalem has done something good for Israeli basketball and all sport will gain from this," he said.

SCOREBOARD

PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER – Last night's result: Arsenal 3, Sheffield Wednesday 0.

Nedved's last-gasp goal lifts Rangers past Leafs

NEW YORK (Reuters) – Petr Nedved scored the tying goal in the third period and the game-winner with 14 seconds left in overtime as the Rangers beat Toronto 3-2 to move into a tie for the last playoff berth in the Eastern Conference.

Brian Leetch set up all three goals for New York, which is tied with Boston and hosts the Bruins on Friday. The Rangers beat the hosting Bruins 3-1 on Sunday.

"Things are turning around," Leetch said. "And bounces are starting to go our way."

The Rangers erased a two-goal first-period deficit before matching their longest unbeaten streak of the season. They are 5-0-1 while playing without the injured Wayne Gretzky.

Lonny Bohonos was called for a rare overtime penalty at 3:10 and Nedved capitalized, wristing Leetch's pass from behind the left hashmarks off defenseman Dimitri Yushkevich and past former Ranger goaltender Glenn Healy.

Bohonos, in his third game with Toronto, was called for boarding after slamming Chris Tamer behind the Rangers net.

"It takes a pretty courageous man to make a call like that in overtime," Healy said. "I've seen a lot of muggings go on out there in overtime and nothing called."

Nedved forced overtime with his first goal 5:55 into the third period.

Panthers 5, Canadiens 2

Five different players scored to lead visiting Florida past suddenly inept Montreal.

Ray Whitney, Peter Worrell and Johan Garpenlov scored in a 4:28 span of the second period to break it open for the Panthers, who ended a four-game winless streak. Florida moved within one point of New York and idle Boston for the final Eastern Conference playoff berth.

The Canadiens have surrendered 15 goals during an 0-2-1 stretch.

Senators 9, Lightning 3

Magnus Arvedson's first career hat trick came in the middle of an eight-goal blitz as host Ottawa crushed Tampa Bay for its fourth straight win.

Alexei Yashin added two goals and an assist and Andreas Dackell had a career-best four assists for the Senators, who erased a 2-0 deficit.

Hurricanes 4, Sabres 1

Arturs Irbe made 31 saves for his first career win over Buffalo and newly acquired Andrei Kovalenko scored for the first time in more than two months, leading Carolina to a home victory.

Irbe stopped all 15 shots he faced over the first two periods as the Hurricanes took a 4-0 lead. His bid for a sixth shutout of the season ended when Miroslav Satan beat him 8:42 into the third.

Tampa Bay 2 0 1–3
Ottawa 0 5 4–9
First Period–1, Tampa Bay, Hogue 11 (McCarthy, Gratton), 8:22. 2, Tampa Bay, Sillinger 5 (Tucker), 7:01. Second Period–3, Ottawa, McEachern 29 (Kravchuk, Rhodes), 2:59 (pp). 4, Ottawa, Salo 3 (Alfredsson, Prospal), 7:26 (pp). 5, Ottawa, Arvedson 15 (Bonk, Hossa), 14:07. 6, Ottawa, Arvedson 16 (Yashin, Dackell), 16:23. 7, Ottawa, Hossa 9 (Arvedson, Bonk), 18:54. Third Period–8, Ottawa, Arvedson 17 (Pitlick, Bonk), 4:27. 9, Ottawa, Yashin 34 (Dackell, Pitlick), 6:48. 10, Ottawa, Lauldanen 1 (McEachern, Dackell), 9:57. 11, Tampa Bay, Zamuner 4 (Petrovicky), 11:57. 12, Ottawa, Yashin 35 (York, McEachern), 15:39 (pp). A–17,836 (18,500).

Buffalo 0 0 1–1
Carolina 2 2 0–4
First Period–1, Carolina, Kovalenko 14 (Hill, Leschyshyn), 2:49. 2, Carolina, Primeau 27 (Gelinas, Hill), 12:44. Second Period–3, Carolina, Ranheim 8 (Manderville), 9:00. 4, Carolina, Kapanen 19 (Roberts, Pratt), 12:32. Third Period–5, Buffalo, Satan 29 (Zhitnik, Ward), 8:42 (pp). A–8,390 (11,059).

Florida 1 3 1–5
Montreal 0 1 1–2
First Period–1, Florida, Niedermayer 16 (Whitney, Svehla), 12:02 (pp). Second Period–2, Florida, Whitney 18 (Kasiov, Parrish), :59. 3, Florida, Worrell 3 (Muller), 2:23. 4, Florida, Garpenlov 5 (Dvorak, Carkner), 5:27. 5, Montreal, Corson 12 (Koivu, Brassbois), 15:01. Third Period–6, Florida, Lindsay 12 (Worrell, Muller), 4:54. 7, Montreal, Ulanov 3 (Thornton, Stevenson), 16:01. A–20,323 (21,273).

Toronto 2 0 0 0–2
N.Y. Rangers 1 0 1 1–3
First Period–1, Toronto, Johnson 19 (D.King), 12:29. 2, Toronto, D.King 20 (Johnson, Karpovtsev), 13:13. 3, New York, Stevens 17 (Leetch, Seward), 14:51 (pp). Second Period–None. Third Period–4, New York, Nedved 16 (Leetch, MacLean), 5:55. Overtime–Buffalo 4-11-17–32. Carolina 16-14-4–30.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	35	21	8	78	191	161
Philadelphia	30	19	15	75	192	150
Pittsburgh	32	21	9	73	194	172
N.Y. Rangers	28	28	8	64	181	177
N.Y. Islanders	19	38	8	46	152	197

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	37	18	8	82	191	134
Toronto	35	24	5	75	203	187
Buffalo	29	22	13	71	170	143
Boston	27	26	10	64	163	148
Montreal	25	31	9	59	155	174

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	29	23	13	71	168	158
Florida	23	23	17	63	165	170
Washington	27	31	5	59	167	168
Tampa Bay	15	43	5	35	136	233

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	32	26	6	70	191	163
St. Louis	26	26	10	62	173	160
Nashville	22	36	6	50	151	208
Chicago	18	37	9	45	142	198

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	32	24	8	72	177	159
Edmonton	25	29	10	60	178	168
Calgary	23	30	10	56	165	178
Vancouver	19	35	10	48	154	200

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	40	12	10	90	181	125
Phoenix	31	22	10	72	157	149
Anaheim	30	25	9	69	172	154
San Jose	22	28	14	58	141	152
Los Angeles	23	36	5	51	145	172

SPORTS *in brief*

Cantona to return for Cruyff tribute

BARCELONA (Reuters) – Former French international Eric Cantona makes a brief return today in Johan Cruyff's testimonial at the Nou Camp.

Cruyff, who as Barcelona coach guided the Catalans to their sole European Cup triumph in 1992, returns to his former club today to coach his "Dream Team" against the current Barca side.

Paul Gascoigne (England), Jorge Campos (Mexico), Mario Jardel and Aloisio Pires Alves (both Brazil), Joao Pinto (Portugal) and Luc Nilis (Belgium) are other top names confirmed for the gala occasion.

Tonight's game is expected to be a 100,000 sell-out.

Nastase among candidates for ITF head

LONDON (AP) – Former tennis bad boy Ilie Nastase, known as much for his temper as his talent, is among eight candidates for the presidency of the sport's world governing body.

The former Romanian star, one of the sport's biggest names in the 1970s, was among those nominated to succeed Australia's Brian Tobin as head of the International Tennis Federation.

Big payout on quiz show gaffe

LONDON (Reuters) – What is the minimum number of strokes with which a tennis player can win a set? A 29-year-old British warehouseman won £125,000 on a television quiz show by giving the wrong answer, the *Daily Mirror* reported yesterday.

Faced with four choices Tony Kennedy went for the obvious – but incorrect – answer and said 24. But the correct answer was 12.

To win a set a tennis player must win six games. Theoretically, a player could win his three service games in 12 shots and win his opponent's three service games without taking a stroke, if the opponent double faulted each time.

German referees want to wear advertising

FRANKFURT (AP) – German soccer referees should follow the players and wear advertising on their shirts, their spokesman said yesterday.

"No referee should be running around looking like an advertising board but why not a small button above the chest pocket," said Manfred Amerell, spokesman for Bundesliga referees.

He suggested an umbrella sponsorship contract that would cover all Bundesliga referees and linesmen, with the income from the deal going to the national soccer federation.

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Dishing it out

Graeme Le Saux handles taunts with an iron fist

London Calling



Mark Rivlin

IT'S not just the football that television cameras are following these days at matches. Last week's Premiership game between Chelsea and Liverpool provided enough material to satisfy the most ardent of soap aficionados.

And yet another off-the-ball incident captured by the cameras proved to be the main item on most of the back and indeed front pages.

Not for the first time, Chelsea and England international Graeme Le Saux was at the center of controversy. The bare facts were that the England left back was lucky to have escaped a red card after flooring Liverpool striker Robbie Fowler with what looked like an excellent left uppercut to the back of the head. The referee Paul Durkin didn't see the incident and so Le Saux stayed on.

After the game, Le Saux claimed that Fowler had been taunting him, calling him "queer" and apparently pointing to his backside in a provocative manner. The cameras had also caught this act and so another unsavory incident was born to the tabloids.

This time, however, it was actually one of the broadsheets which led with its chin. The liberal *Guardian* newspaper devoted half of its front page and most of the back to an explanation of the Le Saux dilemma. The player is a bit of an oddball when it comes to your average working class footballer.

BORN and raised in middle-class Jersey, Le Saux enjoys hobbies and interests which are alien to the beer-swilling bookmaker-frequenting football fraternity in England. While his colleagues eat steak, chips and black forest gateau at the dog track, Le Saux indulges in collecting antiques and visiting art galleries. And you won't find him with a crumpled copy of the *Sun* on the bar of the local watering hole. You might, however, find him reading the *Guardian* while drinking a cafe latte in a trendy cappuccino bar.

Throughout his career, Le Saux has been forced to put up with the taunts of fans and fellow professionals. When he first joined Chelsea as a raw 17-year old, he realized quickly that he would have to toughen up his natural ball-playing game to compete with the crunching tackle brigade.

What also appears to have happened is that to compensate for his more intellectual pursuits off the pitch, he has toughened up his attitude on it, landing himself in deep water on a number of occasions.

While playing for Blackburn four seasons ago, he had an infamous bust-up with teammate David Batty in a European Cup tie in Moscow and his overall disciplinary record is poor. But Le Saux is one of the best defenders in the country and there surely needs to be some allowance within the game for players who don't fit the stereotyped image. Fowler's gesture would have got him into serious trouble had it involved race or sectarianism. It seems that homophobia is *de rigeur* in the country's national sport.

Of greater concern is Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier's reaction to the event. Houllier is one of the more intelligent species involved in football and so his comments during the week that Fowler was an innocent party since he had been the person KO'd was unwelcome. What is at stake here is not whether Le Saux is gay – he is not – but that the game cannot cope with players who don't conform to the lads' norms and mores.

IT will be interesting to see what is made of one of football's most notorious hard men Vinnie Jones, who at the weekend announced his retirement from the game to concentrate on an acting career.

Jones, who was sent off no less than 13 times in his career, was a tabloid sports editor's dream. A rags-to-riches story of a boy brought up in care homes, who was a bricklayer on a building site while playing non-league football for Wealdstone before being spotted by Wimbledon. But after a successful acting debut in the British film *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, Jones has decided to swap his boots for the boards.

Le Saux and Jones are by no means the only footballers to opt for a different lifestyle. Tony Adams is now a reformed alcoholic and poetry writer. Southampton's Ken Monkou likes a night at the theater and Steve McManaman has a weekly column in *The Times*. And of course there's Eric Cantona, actor, painter and philosopher, but of course he is best known for a rather loutish kungfu kick at a spectator during a match at Crystal Palace.

On Sunday, Le Saux ignored the taunts of the Manchester United fans with an excellent performance in the FA Cup quarterfinal clash which sees the teams replay at Stamford Bridge tonight. Should Chelsea win, then it is likely that the semifinal with Arsenal will be played at Wembley.

THE game would be scheduled for April 12th and would be the first time a semifinal would be played on a Monday and the first time one would be played at Wembley for five years. The use of Wembley as a semifinal venue began in the 1990s and lasted for four years.

Traditionalists do not like the idea of playing semifinals at the stadium, but the reality is that its 72,000 capacity is double that of the only other appropriate London venue, Tottenham's White Hart Lane and this is clearly the motivating factor behind the FA's decision to go with Wembley. The final will be the last one at Wembley before the refurbishment of the stadium.

The other semifinal between Newcastle and Tottenham or Barnsley will be played at Old Trafford. If Manchester United overcome Chelsea tonight, they will play Arsenal at Villa Park.

Newcastle's second-half performance against a sorry Everton left no doubt that Ruud Gullit has fashioned a side worthy of a second successive Wembley appearance. But what of poor Everton? Nine months after arriving at Goodison Park, manager Walter Smith is left with a wreckage which is fast sinking to the depths. The cup was Smith's last great hope for a season in which just about everything has gone wrong. All he is left with now is a nasty dog-fight against relegation.

With fixtures against Arsenal, Manchester United and Liverpool coming up, there will be no let-up for Everton who after leveling early in the second half on Sunday, simply capitulated to lose 4-1.

'Joltin' Joe has left and gone away'



A TIP OF THE CAP – A Florida resident pays homage to Yankee great Joe DiMaggio at a display at Tampa's Legends Field yesterday, one day after DiMaggio's death at the age of 84. (Reuters)

NEW YORK (AP) – Paul Simon didn't mean any disrespect to Joe DiMaggio.

Simon, who wrote the song "Mrs. Robinson" that made DiMaggio even more famous, said yesterday in an op-ed page essay for *The New York Times* that he explained his "Where have you gone, Joe DiMaggio" lyric to the former baseball star in a chance meeting in a restaurant.

"A few years after 'Mrs. Robinson' rose to No. 1 on the pop charts, I found myself dining at an Italian restaurant where DiMaggio was seated with a party of friends," Simon wrote. "I'd heard a rumor that he was upset with the song and had considered a lawsuit, so it was with some trepidation that I walked over and introduced myself as its composer. I needn't have worried: He was perfectly cordial and invited me to sit down, whereupon we immediately fell into conversation about the only subject we had in common.

"*What I don't understand*," he said, "is why you ask where I've gone. I just did a Mr. Coffee commercial. I'm a spokesman for the Bowery Savings Bank and I haven't gone anywhere."

"*I said that I didn't mean the* lines literally, that I thought of him as an American hero and that genuine heroes were in short supply. He accepted the explanation and thanked me. We shook hands and said good night."

DiMaggio died Monday at age 84.

Yogi remembers

Yogi Berra shuffled into his own museum Monday without a smile, his thick glasses framing sad eyes. He had learned of Joe DiMaggio's death early that morning, and while a nation mourned the passing of an American icon, Berra had lost a former teammate and friend.

"I wish everybody had the drive that he had," Berra said. "He never did anything wrong on the field. I'd never seen him dive for a ball, everything was a chest-high catch, and he never walked off the field. You have to admire a man like that."

Berra played six seasons with DiMaggio and was one of the few players to have a close relationship with the Yankee Clipper. He described DiMaggio as a loner who often went his own way after the team's train pulled into a city, but Berra was permitted to see a side of him that few others did.

Even in sadness, Yogi was still Yogi. Asked to describe DiMaggio, Berra answered as only he can. "He was the greatest living ballplayer I've ever seen play," Berra said, not realizing the humor in his statement.

Berra was more than willing to play the supporting role to DiMaggio next month at Opening Day at Yankee Stadium. "I wish Joe was there so I could catch the ball instead of throw it," he said.

Now, Berra is likely to be alone for the ceremonial first pitch, and with the passing of Mickey Mantle *and DiMaggio, he might be the* most celebrated link left to the Yankees' glorious past.

"I don't know about that," said Berra, who proceeded to thumb through his own list. "Whitey Ford *is still living. Tommy Henrich is* still living. Gil McDougald is still living. We still got guys hanging around."

None so great as DiMaggio, of course. He remains a myth to many, but for Berra, he was the guy one locker over, the one who liked to bet at the dog track and the one who never let anyone else pick up the check.

Berra recalled how DiMaggio would walk into the clubhouse. "He always wore a blue suit, white shirt and a beautiful tie," he said.

Then DiMaggio would spend his pregame hours in the clubhouse, drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes in front of his locker.

And once the Yankees took the field, the reaction of the other team was always the same. "We had Joe DiMaggio," Berra said, "and they didn't."

DiMaggio Highway

A bill that would honor DiMaggio by renaming a New *York City highway after him is* waiting on deck.

The proposal to rename Manhattan's West Side Highway the "Joe DiMaggio Highway" was introduced last month and has *picked up support in both the state* Senate and Assembly. Tentative plans were made by legislative officials to release the bill from committee on Monday and have each chamber pass it in the wake of *DiMaggio's death.*

But the plans did not materialize Monday. Legislative sources, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the plan stalled after Gov. George Pataki's administration proposed instead to rename the Major Deegan Expressway in the Bronx after the Yankee slugger.

The Deegan expressway runs past Yankee Stadium. The West Side Highway runs along the Hudson River near the eastern shore of the Hudson.

Japanese tribute

In baseball-crazy Japan – where DiMaggio once hit home runs in exhibition appearances – the death of an American icon was among the top stories yesterday.

DiMaggio's death was carried in all of Japan's major newspapers and on news broadcasts. Most also featured photos of him with Marilyn Monroe.

Japan's largest newspaper, the *Yomiuri*, devoted nearly a quarter *of its domestic news coverage to* the DiMaggio story.

"The Major League Record: 56-game hitting streak, Mr. Joe DiMaggio has died," said its four-column headline.

Last will and testament

Despite an estranged relationship in recent years, DiMaggio did not write his only child out of the will.

Among the items bequeathed in *DiMaggio's last will and testa*ment is a trust fund that will pay Joseph Paul DiMaggio Jr. $20,000 a year.

DiMaggio Jr., who works in a Northern California junkyard and lives in a trailer, said last month he hasn't seen his father in about two years. He did not visit his father's bedside during the Hall of Famer's illness.

The bequest, in a will signed May 21, 1996, appeared to be the smallest gift in the document, which also established trust funds for DiMaggio's two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Great-grandchildren Kendahl R. Stein and Mitchell J. Stein each received trusts of $250,000. Great-granddaughters Valerie F. Hamra and Vanessa S. Hamra received trusts of $500,000 each.

Cooperstown weeps

The Baseball Hall of Fame lowered its official flag in tribute to DiMaggio on Monday.

The baseball shrine, where DiMaggio last appeared eight years ago, also placed a wreath at the Yankee Clipper's plaque in the inductees' room.

DiMaggio was inducted into *the Hall in 1955. His memorabilia* on display includes his Yankee Stadium locker, which was later used by Mickey Mantle.

Hanging in the locker are DiMaggio's home uniform and cap from the 1951 season, his last, along with some gloves and bats from his 1939 MVP season.

There's also the pen he used to sign baseball's first $100,000 contract.

Seles stunned, Hingis schools Schnyder

INDIAN WELLS, Ca. (Reuters) – No. 1 Martina Hingis continued her carefree skip through the $1.3 million Evert Cup on Monday by dismissing Patty Schnyder 6-1 6-3, while former top-ranked Monica Seles sank to defeat.

Hingis advanced to a quarterfinals date with *American Chanda Rubin*, a 6-4, 6-4 upset winner over No. 7 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa.

Seles was swept out of the tournament by Slovakian up-and-comer Henrieta Nagyova 6-2, 6-4 in the third round.

Hingis had few problems in beating fellow-Swiss Schnyder in just 54 minutes.

Moving swiftly and counter-punching brilliantly against the left-hander, the 18-year-old Hingis forced Schnyder to go for outright winners, which the 20-year-old rarely made.

Schnyder, seeded 10th, made 25 unforced errors against only 13 winners.

"I tried to play aggressive, it's the only way to beat her," Schnyder said. "I made too many mistakes. I was risking too much. I was dominating a lot of the points, but I missed when I had to go for a winner.... She was running down all the balls and reacting well. She could read my game a little."

Hingis, who now owns a 2-1 record against Schnyder, said that was the best she had played against her foe.

"Reading my opponents is my strength," Hingis said. "Most of the time, that is my weapon on the court. I pretty much know where the players want to go. That's why I'm number one."

Schnyder, mired in controversy the past two months after firing her coach and hiring mysterious German nutrition guru Rainer Harnecker, who has put her on a radical diet and claims to be able to cure cancer and AIDS, admits she is not firing on all cylinders.

"I'm less confident," said Schnyder, who won five titles last year. "I've had a hard time and I couldn't concentrate the way I wanted to. But I can handle the situation better right now."

Schnyder said she believes her new diet, which includes drinking two to three liters of orange juice a day, will make her a better player in the long run.

"For sure," she said. "Otherwise I wouldn't do it."

Seles looked completely out of sorts against the 20-year-old Nagyova, a tall, powerful player who made Seles appear slow-footed and confused.

Nagyova, who has won five titles in her career but had never beaten a top-10 player, said it was her biggest victory.

"It was for sure some of the best I played," the 27th-ranked Nagyova said. "I played what I was thinking, some slice, not hitting balls so hard, a little bit clever....I was mentally fit."

Seles was making her first appearance in Indian Wells since 1992, when she won the title. While she reached the semifinals of the 1999 Australian Open, Seles has only played three events this year and hasn't won a title in five months.

'Basketball to blame' for Windies disaster

SYDNEY (AP) – The growing popularity of United States' sports in the Caribbean has been blamed for the West Indies' first cricket Test thrashing by Australia.

Former Australian captain Mark Taylor said basketball was taking a grip on the youth of the Caribbean, costing its cricket team talented players.

"There's a lot more West Indians, particularly the six foot ones who used to bowl really quick all the time, a lot of them are now going into basketball," Taylor said yesterday.

"So there's a greater influence in the West Indies to play other sports, whereas 15 years ago it was cricket, cricket or cricket."

The Windies are still relying on aging pacemen Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh, but its batting plunged record depths when dismissed for 51 at Port of Spain.

Former Australian cricket captain Bob Simpson, having been on the receiving end of some savage West Indian thrashings, took a lot of pleasure from the Aussies' 312-run victory.

It was two decades ago when Simpson led an inferior Australia side, decimated by defections to Kerry Packer's World Series Cricket, on a doomed five-test series to the Caribbean.

The Australians lost 3-1, but it was the opening innings of the series at the same venue where the West Indians capitulated, Queen's Park Oval, which cut most into Simpson.

The side was rolled for 90 on a rain-affected pitch and eventually lost the opening encounter by an innings and 106 runs.

"I'm delighted with the way Australia won," Simpson said.

"The West Indies have been unrelenting with their pressure on other countries and been dominating for so long it's good to see that happen." to regroup.

Simpson said Australia's 1995 icebreaking tour win over the West Indies when he was coach of the national team was the strongest sign that their cricketers were in decay.

Brand unanimous choice for college hoops All-American

NEW YORK (AP) – Elton Brand, who missed almost half his freshman season with a broken foot, became a year later the only unanimous choice on the 1998-99 AP All-America team.

Duke's sophomore center was joined Monday on the first team by junior forward Richard Hamilton of Connecticut and senior guards *Andre Miller of Utah and Jason Terry of Arizona, and junior guard* Mateen Cleaves of Michigan State.

Brand, who averaged 17.8 points and 9.8 rebounds for the top-ranked Duke Blue Devils, was named on all 72 first-team ballots by the national media panel to become the fourth unanimous selection of the '90s. The others were Christian Laettner of Duke in 1992, Glenn Robinson of Purdue in 1994 and Tim Duncan of Wake Forest in 1997.

Brand was an honorable mention All-America last season despite missing 15 games with the injury, but he showed he was healed this summer when he led the US team in the Goodwill Games in scoring and rebounding.

The second team was senior center Evan Eschmeyer of Northwestern, who had one point less than Cleaves, Chris Porter of Auburn, Wally Szczerbiak of Miami of Ohio, Steve Francis of Maryland and Trajan Langdon of Duke, a third-team choice last season.

NBA

Continued from Page 20

The Bucks made it three straight over the Bulls for the first time since 1994-95, during Michael Jordan's first retirement.

Milwaukee stretched its winning streak to a season-high four despite reverting to their perimeter-based offense and allowing Brent Barry to score 19, Randy Brown 18 and Toni Kukoc 17.

The Bucks, who trailed by 15 in the first half, took their first lead on Michael Curry's 15-foot jumper with 3:07 left.

Trail Blazers 92, Grizzlies 73

Jimmy Jackson came off the bench to score a season-high 21 points as nagging injuries didn't prevent visiting Portland from racking up its seventh straight win.

Damon Stoudamire sealed the victory with all of his 10 points in the third quarter. Brian Grant finished with 14 points and nine rebounds as the Trail Blazers improved to 14-3.

Grant hasn't missed a shot in two games. After going 4-for-4 from the field and hitting both free throws in Sunday's 111-71 win over Houston, Grant finished 5-for-5 from the field and 4-for-4 from the foul line against Vancouver.

Stoudamire (bruised left heel) and center Arvydas Sabonis (slightly sprained right knee) played despite getting banged up in Sunday's 111-71 win over the Houston Rockets.

Shareef Abdur-Rahim scored 19 points and had six rebounds for the Grizzlies, who lost their eighth straight and 11th of their last 12. The 73 points was a low for Vancouver this season.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	14	5	.737	—
Miami	13	5	.722	½
New York	10	7	.588	3
Philadelphia	0	8	.556	3½
Boston	7	8	.467	5
Washington	7	10	.412	6
New Jersey	3	13	.188	9½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	12	5	.706	—
Milwaukee	10	5	.667	1
Detroit	11	7	.611	1½
Atlanta	9	8	.529	3
Cleveland	7	8	.467	4
Toronto	6	10	.375	5½
Charlotte	4	11	.267	7
Chicago	4	13	.235	8

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	13	4	.765	—
Minnesota	11	6	.647	2
Houston	10	8	.556	3½
San Antonio	10	8	.556	3½
Dallas	6	13	.316	8
Denver	5	13	.278	8½
Vancouver	4	14	.222	9½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	14	3	.824	—
L.A. Lakers	13	6	.684	2
Seattle	9	7	.563	4½
Phoenix	9	8	.529	5
Sacramento	9	9	.500	5½
Golden State	7	10	.412	7
L.A. Clippers	0	15	.000	13

Philadelphia 23 25 24 17–89
Miami 28 21 17 25–91
PHILADELPHIA (89) Lynch 3-8 4-4 10, Ratliff 3-6 4-8 10, Geiger 2-7 2-2 6, Snow 7-10 0-0 14, Iverson 7-20 12-14 28, Mahorn 1-2 0-0 2, Hughes 5-12 0-0 11, Grant 1-4 0-0 2, Thomas 0-3 0-0 0, Mohammed 0-0 2-2 2, McKie 2-3 0-0 4. Totals 31-76 24-30 89.
MIAMI (91) Majerle 2-6 0-0 4, P.Brown 4-7 5-5 13, Mourning 5-8 5-7 15, Walters 2-5 0-0 5, Hardaway 4-14 3-3 12, Porter 7-9 3-5 20, Weatherspoon 5-10 3-4 13, Edwards 0-3 0-0 0, Causwell 0-1 1-2 1, Strickland 4-4 0-0 8. Totals 33-68 20-26 91.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Philadelphia 47 (Hughes, Lynch, Ratliff 8), Miami 46 (P.Brown 11). Assists–Philadelphia 20 (Snow 7), Miami 24 (Hardaway 10). A–15,200 (15,200).

Atlanta 27 30 32 25–114
Orlando 24 36 21 29–110
ATLANTA (114) Ellis 2-6 1-2 5, Henderson 7-16 5-6 19, Mutombo 6-15 6-9 18, Smith 9-17 5-6 24, Blaylock 5-16 1-4 15, Long 2-5 3-4 7, Corbin 4-7 2-2 11, Crawford 4-8 0-0 9, West 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 3-4 0-0 6. Totals 43-96 23-33 114.
ORLANDO (110) D.Wilkins 7-10 0-0 15, Grant 1-3 1-2 3, Austin 5-15 1-2 11, Anderson 11-17 7-9 34, Hardaway 7-13 1-1 16, Armstrong 5-11 2-2 14, Harping 1-4 0-0 2, Dolezac 5-6 1-1 11, Strong 2-5 0-1 4. Totals 44-84 13-18 110.
Fouled out–Dolezac. Rebounds–Atlanta 62 (Mutombo 17), Orlando 46 (Anderson 10). Assists–Atlanta 23 (Blaylock 9), Orlando 28 (Armstrong 9). A–15,637 (17,248).

Washington 20 20 20 11–71
Detroit 17 19 23 16–75
WASHINGTON (71) Howard 7-17, 0-0 14, Thorpe 4-8 1-4 9, Davis 2-6 0-0 4, Richmond 8-14 6-6 22, McInnis 4-12 2-4 10, Wallace 1-3 1-2 3, Cheaney 3-9 0-0 6, Murray 1-6 0-0 3, Whitney 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 30-76 10-16 71.
DETROIT (75) Hill 7-17 5-6 19, Vaught 7-13 4-6 18, Dela 1-5 2-2 4, Dumars 2-6 0-0 6, Hunter 6-9 4-4 16, J.Williams 1-2 1-1 3, Stackhouse 1-5 3-4 5, Montross 1-2 0-0 2, Buechler 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 27-62 19-26 75.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Washington 51 (Thorpe 17), Detroit 43 (Dela 9). Assists–Washington 21 (McInnis 6), Detroit 15 (Hill 6). A–15,022 (22,076).

Chicago 24 23 18 11–76
Milwaukee 15 22 17 27–81
CHICAGO (76) Harper 2-10 1-2 6, Simpkins 3-4 4-4 10, Kukoc 7-18 2-2 17, Barry 6-14 4-4 19, Brown 8-17 2-3 18, Jones 0-4 0-0 0, Bryant 0-0 0-0 0, David 0-1 1-2 1, Benjamin 0-0 0-0 0, LaRue 2-3 0-0 5. Totals 28-71 14-17 76.
MILWAUKEE (81) Hill 1-3 4-4 6, Robinson 2-12 5-5 10, Traylor 1-2 1-2 3, Allen 6-13 4-4 17, Brandon 5-13 4-4 14, D.Curry 2-7 2-3 7, M.Curry 5-7 0-0 10, Del Negro 3-7 0-0 6, Johnston 1-4 2-3 4, Gilliam 1-8 2-2 4. Totals 27-75 24-27 81.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Chicago 46 (Kukoc 9), Milwaukee 52 (Gilliam 8). Assists–Chicago 21 (Brown 8), Milwaukee 19 (Brandon 8). A–12,085 (18,717).

Portland 25 19 28 20–92
Vancouver 15 22 21 15–73
PORTLAND (92) Williams 3-13 3-4 11, Grant 5-5 4-4 14, Sabonis 2-7 6-6 10, Rider 2-4 0-0 5, Stoudamire 4-10 0-0 10, Wallace 5-7 0-0 10, Jackson 7-15 7-7 21, Cato 0-2 0-2 0, Augmon 0-2 0-0 0, Anthony 2-4 0-0 6, O'Neal 1-3 1-2 3, Crotty 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 32-75 21-25 92.
VANCOUVER (73) Abdur-Rahim 6-11 7-7 19, Parks 2-10 2-2 6, Reeves 2-7 1-5 5, Lopez 5-12 2-2 12, Bibby 4-10 3-3 11, Smith 3-5 1-2 7, Mack 2-11 3-3 8, Chilcutt 1-3 0-0 2, Wheat 0-4 3-4 3. Totals 25-73 22-28 73.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Portland 56 (Grant 9), Vancouver 45 (Parks 9). Assists–Portland 28 (Stoudamire 8), Vancouver 12 (Bibby 5). Total fouls–Portland 25, Vancouver 19. Technicals–Cato, Vancouver coach Hill. A–13,552 (19,193).

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CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra hosts the Latvian National Opera (Riga) in a fully-staged production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* tonight in Ein Hashofet, tomorrow in Ein Hahoresh, Saturday at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem and Sunday in Dorot. There will be additional performances until March 21 throughout the country and all will be held at 8:30 p.m except for Jerusalem, which will be at 8 p.m.

Gabriel Chmura leads the Haifa Symphony Orchestra in Schubert's Eighth (Unfinished) Symphony and Richard Strauss's *Till Eulenspiegel* with pianist Yinon Bar-Natan replacing the previously announced David Lively to play Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto. Tonight and tomorrow at the Haifa Auditorium at 8:30.

Ethnic week at the Jerusalem Music Center continues with Arab music today and Eastern church music tomorrow. Workshops are offered throughout the day and concerts are at 8:30 p.m. On Saturday at 9 p.m. the concluding concert of the week's activities features contemporary works inspired by ethnic traditions.



Gabriel Chmura leads the Haifa Symphony Orchestra tonight and tomorrow.

JAZZ

RACHEL BELL

Trinidadian steel drum-master Othello Molineaux will show how it's done in the fourth of the six-part World Beat/Jazz concert series. Tonight he performs with Silvano Monasterios, a Venezuelan-born jazz pianist, and the unique Jerusalem Steel Band.

An assemblage of Israeli-born musicians and immigrants from the US and former Soviet Union, the Jerusalem Steel Band is Israel's first in this musical category. Tonight at Jerusalem's Tower of David Museum, at 8:30.

TV

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

ARABIC PROGRAMS
6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ **EDUCATIONAL TV**

8:00 Conversations about People
8:30 Radio Fever
9:00 Guitar for Beginners
9:30 Communication: The Human Imperative
10:00 For the very young
11:06 New Vision – children's current affairs
11:30 Mathematics
12:20 Sciences
13:30 Hanni's Room
15:00 Sesame Street

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

15:30 Zap 1
15:40 Heartbreak High
16:30 The Simpsons
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 Marked Places
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
18:55 International Soccer – Israel vs Romania
21:00 News
21:30 One on One
22:05 Via La Voce – Verdi's best-known arias under the baton of conductor Mendy Rodan
23:00 Good Luck
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

■ **CHANNEL 2 (22)**

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 Song of the Day
6:00 Rupert Bear
6:43 Coffee Tel-Ad
9:00 Third Time
10:00 Roots – Israel Festival 1997: ethnic artistry
10:50 Dangerous Minds
11:40 Something So Right
12:05 Borderline – Stitches on the Line: the aftermath of the Six Day War (rpt)
13:00 Golden Age
13:30 Kate and Allie
14:00 The Mommies
14:30 Tick Tack
15:00 Disney Time
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Street Corner
17:00 Five with Gadi Sukenik
17:30 Sport TV
18:00 VIP
19:00 Posing with Yael Abecassis
19:30 Election Diary '99
20:00 News
20:30 Fact with Ilana Dayan
21:20 Ramat Aviv Gimmel
22:05 Avraham and Ya'acov
23:20 The X-Files: new season – The Triangle
00:00 News
00:05 The X-Files (contd.)
00:20 M*A*S*H
00:50 Between the Mountain Borders – documentary about a Palmah unit based in Ayelet Hashahar responsible for smuggling illegal immigrants into the country between 1943 and 1945
1:25 Tel Aviv Jazz Festival – Shazzam
2:15 Red Sea Jazz Festival – Yoni Rechter
3:00 Amazing Stories
3:25 Night Song

■ **JORDAN TV (31)**

Broadcasts passages from the Koran and news until the end of the official 40-day mourning period (March 20) following the death of King Hussein

■ **MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27) (unconfirmed)**

7:30 700 Club
8:00 TV Shopping
15:00 Buddy Buddy
15:30 The Bionic Six
16:00 Woody Woodpecker
16:30 White Fang
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic World News
18:00 CNN Entertainment
18:30 Coach
19:00 Wiseguy
20:00 Commish
21:00 League Soccer
23:00 Late Night with David Letterman
23:30 CNN Entertainment
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 700 Club

CABLE

■ **ITV 3 (33)**

16:30 Dictator
17:30 Animation
18:00 Fruits of the Tree of Knowledge
19:00 News in Arabic
19:00 Telekesset
20:00 Doctors Talk
20:30 Royal Canadian Air Farce
21:00 News
21:30 Scent of Mint
23:00 Favorite Cities

■ **ETV 2 (23)**

15:30 Mathematics
16:00 Fairy Tales
16:50 Arabic Stories
18:00 Pique Nique
18:30 Marketing
19:00 Talks about People: Abraham Lincoln
19:30 Vis-a-Vis
20:00 New Evening
20:30 Tastes
20:55 Little Big Country
21:00 Twenty Plus
21:30 Comedy Company
22:00 In the Heat of the Night
22:45 The New 20th Century

■ **CHANNEL 3**

6:30 Love Story with Yossi Siyas (r)
7:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (r)
7:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
8:10 Celeste
9:00 Falcon Crest
9:45 The Young and the Restless (r)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (r)
11:15 Forever Little Women 12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:30 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Ricki Lake
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Forever Little Women
16:45 Days of Our Lives
17:30 Friends
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 Trivia King
20:50 Frasier – new fifth season
21:10 L.A. Doctors – new drama series starring Ken Olin, Matt Craven, Rick Roberts and Sheryl Lee as four doctors who share a new upmarket clinic in LA 22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (r)
23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
00:15 Nikita (r)
1:05 Ghost Stories
1:50 Red Shoe Diaries

■ **MOVIE CHANNEL (4)**

11:30 Desperate Justice (1993) – a woman shoots the man who raped her daughter. With Lesley Ann Warren
13:05 The Son of Kong (1933) – comic sequel to the classic *King Kong*. An explorer finds the son of King Kong on a prehistoric island. With Robert Armstrong, Helen Mack and Victor Wong
14:15 Changing Habits (1996) – the story of a young artist who has become jaded following her mother's suicide and her difficult relations with her father. With Moira Kelly, Christopher Lloyd and Teri Garr
16:00 Under the Domim Tree (Hebrew, 1995) – Sequel to the acclaimed *Summer of Avia*, now following Avia in a boarding school where most of the children are orphans while her mother is hospitalized in a mental home. With Juliano Mor, Orly Perl and Gila Almagor
17:40 Another Round (1992) – on the eve of Valentine's Day in a smart cocktail bar, a young and romantic waitress envies the couples she sees around her
18:05 Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls (1995) – sequel to Jim Carry's blockbuster hit.
19:45 A Kidnapping in the Family (1996) – a recently divorced mother has too much fun according to her mother, who sues for custody of her grandson. With Tracey Gold and Kate Jackson
21:10 Sentinel
22:00 Eraser (1996) – cartoonish and entertaining action thriller about a specialist in the Federal Witness Protection Program who really does do everything to keep his witness from being silenced. With Arnold Schwarzenegger, James Caan, Vanessa Williams and James Coburn
23:55 Drop Squad (1994) – political satire about an underground militant group that kidnaps African-Americans who have sold out their race. With Eriq La Salle, Vondie Curtis-Hall and Ving Rhames
1:20 Silent Victim (1992) – a man sues his wife after she loses his baby she was carrying when she tried to commit suicide. With Michele Greene and Kyle Secor
3:15 Never Say Die (1994, 93 mins.) – a former marine betrayed and left to die by his commander survives and sets out to get his revenge. With Frank Zagarino and Billy Drago

■ **CHILDREN (6)**

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Simba, Jungle King
8:30 Arthur
9:00 Mozart and the Gang
9:35 The Smurfs
10:00 Ninja Turtles
10:30 Batman
11:05 Dexter's Lab
11:35 Calamity Jane
12:05 On the Road – with Michael Yanai
12:35 The Muddies
13:00 Musty
13:10 Make-Believe Closet
13:35 Simba, the Jungle King
14:05 The Little Bits
14:30 Arthur
15:05 The Smurfs
15:30 Ninja Turtles
16:00 Batman
16:30 Dexter's Lab
17:10 Cow and Chicken
17:30 Flipper
18:30 Crazy – with Gil Sassover
19:10 Saved by the Bell
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 Full House
20:45 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air – reruns
21:10 Lois and Clark

■ **SECOND SHOWING (6)**

22:00 Pink Narcissus (1971) – groundbreaking and campy homosexual erotica featuring a series of a young man's fantasies of himself. With Bobby Kendall
23:20 Pizzicata (Italian, 1996, 90 mins.) – a southern Italian farmer and his family shelter a wounded American pilot during WWII. The pilot and the youngest daughter fall in love despite her being promised to a wealthy landowner's son

■ **CHANNEL 8**

6:00 Open University (rpts from Tuesday at 23:30)
8:00 Shablul: Primates (r)
8:30 Beyond 2000 (r)
9:00 Anatomy of Love (r)
9:50 Brahms and the Little Singing Girls – portrait of the composer in relationship to women
10:50 Toscanini Conducts – 1948 concert devoted to Brahms performed by NBC Symphony Orchestra
11:50 Beyond 2000 (r)
12:15 From Monkeys to Apes, part 5 (r)
12:45 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
13:40 Peak Performance: Gymnastics (r)
14:05 Secrets of World War II: The Last Days of Hitler (r)
15:00 Future Fantastic (r)
15:25 Susie is a Fish (r)
16:00 Arctic, part 4 – mammoth mummies in Siberia
17:00 Open University: Faces of Culture
17:30 Open University: More than Numbers
18:00 Open University: Drama, Play, Performance
19:00 From Monkeys to Apes, part 6: The Lilliputian Monkey – 12-part series about monkeys, apes and humans
19:30 Hunt For Amazing Treasures, part 10 – a variety of wonders
20:00 Living in Africa: The Survival Age – Tanzania's plans for revitalizing the economy
20:30 Peak Performance: Swimming
21:00 Secrets of World War II: Secret Mission to North Africa – intelligence gathering in Africa
21:55 Dead Blue – clinical depression, its causes and treatments
22:50 From Monkeys to Apes (see 19:00)
23:20 Open University: Celluloid Heroes
00:20 Open University: Archeology: Universe, Infinite Frontiers
1:20 From Monkeys to Apes (r)
1:5 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
2:10 Living in Africa (see 20:00)
2:40 Peak Performance (r)

■ **STAR WORLD (18/15)**

6:00 The Pretender (r)
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Burt Wolf's Menu
10:00 Snowy River, The McGregor Saga
11:00 Mysterious Island
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 Asia News & World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 Space Island One
15:00 Big Easy
16:00 Murder Call
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 Space Island One
19:00 Big Easy
20:00 Murder Call
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 The Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Aerobics Oz Style
2:30 The Brittas Empire

■ **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (17/19)**

6:00 Mir 18: Destination Space (r)
6:30 Visions of the Deep (r)
7:00 CNBC
13:00 Ballad of the Irish Horse (r)
14:00 Shipwreck on the Skeleton Coast (r)
15:00 Sex on the Reef – how the coral reef is created
16:00 Mangroves (r)
16:30 The Art of the Warrior 17:30 Riding the Rails (r)
18:30 Last of the Dancing Bears (r)
19:00 Mir 18: Destination Space (r)
19:30 Visions of the Deep 20:00 Islands of the Iguana – the banded iguana of Fiji
21:00 The Prince of Slooghis – the celebrated Middle Eastern greyhound
21:30 Margaret Mead: an Observer Observed – an overview of the renowned anthropologist's life
23:00 The Great Return – efforts to reverse the process of animal extinction
23:30 Journey Through the Underworld – an expedition through a cave system
00:00 Invisible World
1:00 Crane River – how the Platte River in Nebraska is important to the survival of cranes and other endangered species
2:00 Islands of the Iguana

■ **BBC WORLD (13/14)**

News on the hour
6:30 USA Direct (r)
7:30 Reporters (r)
8:30 Holiday (r)
9:30 Hard Talk (r)
10:30 Reporters (r)
11:30 Hard Talk (r)
12:30 The Travel Show (r)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 Reporters (r)
15:00 World News and Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Talking Movies (r)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 Reporters (r)
19:30 Holiday (r)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (r)
22:30 Money Programme
23:05 World News and Business Report
23:30 Top Gear
00:10 Europe Direct
1:30 World Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (r)
2:30 Holiday (r)

■ **CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)**

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:05 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (r)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sports
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (r)
12:30 World Sport
13:15 American Edition
13:30 Biz Asia
14:30 Business Unusual
15:15 Asian Edition
15:30 World Report
16:30 Showbiz Today
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Style! with Elsa Klensch
19:00 Larry King Live (r)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

■ **SKY NEWS (14/13)**

News on the hour
6:30 Showbiz Weekly
7:30 CBS Evening News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 Sky World News
13:30 Money
16:30 Prime Minister's Questions
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ **CHANNEL 5 (05)**

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 German League Soccer
18:00 Water Polo
18:30 National League Volleyball
19:30 Sports News
20:00 Live European Basketball – AS Ramat Hasharon vs Bordeaux
21:45 NBA (rpt)
23:00 European Champions League Soccer

■ **EUROSPORT (15/16)**

9:30 Biathlon
10:30 Live Alpine Skiing
11:30 Ski Jumping
13:00 Alpine Skiing
13:30 Live Alpine Skiing
14:30 Golf
15:30 Tennis
18:15 Alpine Skiing
20:00 Live Tennis
23:30 Boxing
00:30 Strongest Man
1:30 Tractor Pulling

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	International Soccer Cont'd	Election Diary '99	Melrose Place	A Kidnapping in the Family	Family Matters / Married with Children	Hunt for Amazing Treasures / Living in Africa
20:00		News	Trivia King		Full House / Fresh Prince of Bel Air	
20:30		Fact with Ilana Dayan	Frasier			Peak Performance
21:00	News		LA Doctors	Sentinel	Lois and Clark	Secrets of World War II
21:30	One on One	Ramat Aviv Gimmel				Dead Blue
22:00	Via La Voce	Avraham and Ya'acov	Yair Lapid Live at 10	Eraser	Pink Narcissus	
22:30			Seinfeld			From Monkeys to Apes
23:00			The Tonight Show with Jay Leno			

RADIO

■ **VOICE OF MUSIC**

6:05 Bach: Brandenburg Concerto no 1 in F; Haydn, Mozart: Divertimentos for Winds; Bach: Brandenburg Concerto no 2 in F 7:07 Bach: Brandenburg Concerto no 3 in G; Byrd, Gibbons: Selected pieces; Bach: Brandenburg Concerto no 4 8:05 Bach: Brandenburg Concertos nos 5 and 6; Haydn: Symphony no 100 in G "Military" 9:05 Beethoven: String Quartet in C op 59/3 "Rasumovsky"; Mendelssohn: Concerto in E for 2 Pianos and Orchestra; Beethoven: Piano Concerto in C minor no 3 op 37; Haydn: Symphony no 88 in G; Brahms: Symphony no 2 in D op 73 12:00 Light Classical – works by Berlioz, Haydn, Liszt and Kodaly 13:00 Artist of the Week – The Consort of Musicke 14:06 The Balkan Mass – fourth program 16:00 da Herusalem: Te Deum; Torelli: Concerto Grosso from op 8 (I Musici); Mozart: Duet from instrumentation of Handel's "Ode to St. Cecilia" K592; Haydn: Cello Concerto in C major (Du Pré / English CO / Barenboim); Ben-Shabtai: Sinfonia Cromatica 18:00 Debussy: Rêverie for Flute and Harp; Chopin: Mazurka in F minor; Brahms: Gestillte Sehnsucht from 2 Songs for Alto, Viola and Piano op 91; Tchaikovsky: Méditation for Violin and Piano; Schubert: Divertissement à l'hongroise (Jando / Prunyi); Dvorak: Piano Trio no 4 in E minor op 90 "Dumky" (Suk Trio); Brahms: String Sextet no 1 in B flat op 18 (Raphael Ens) 20:05 (1) The Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba (recorded 14.1.98) / Dmitri Sitkovetsky, conductor and violinist. Vivaldi: The Four Seasons op 8; Mendelssohn: Symphony no 3 in A minor op 56 "Scottish"; Bizet: Adagio from L'Arlesienne Suite no 1 (encore); (2) The International Chamber Music Festival in Jerusalem (1.9.98). Haydn: Duo for Violin and Cello (Capouson / Yaffa); Berg: Adagio from Chamber Concerto for Piano, Violin and Clarinet; Schubert: Variations for Flute and Piano D802; Schoenberg: Verklärte Nacht; Strauss-Schoenberg: Roses from the South for Harmonium, 2 Violins, Viola, Cello and Bass 23:00 Golden Generation – The Busch Quartet / third program. Beethoven: Quartet in C sharp minor op 131 (2.3.1936); Handel: Concerto Grosso in G op 6/1 (members of Busch CO / Adolf Busch / 22.1.1946)

■ **RADIOWEST**

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news 6:00 Morning Drive with David Starck (until 9:00) 7:45 Sports Update 8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update 9:00 Morning Brunch with Teisha Bader 12:00 Sound Advice with Centurion Insurance 13:00 Memory Lane 15:00 Afternoon Drive with Dr. G (until 18:30) 17:45 Sports Update 18:30 Newsmakers with Mordechai Twersky 19:00 Moondance with Donna Abraham 21:00 "The Great Divide" – panel discussion presented by Gesher 22:00 West Rock with Mike Reinis 1:00 Late Night Music

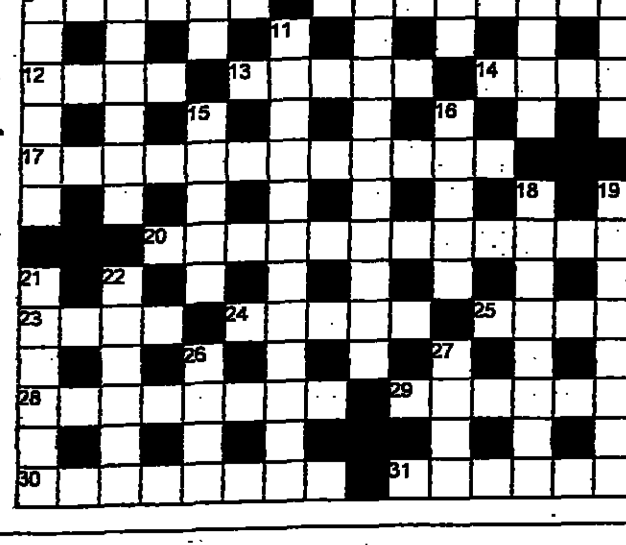
■ **BBC WORLD SERVICE**

6:00 The World Today 7:00 The World Today 8:00 The World Today 9:00 World News 9:15 Outlook 9:55 My Century 10:00 World News 10:05 Westway 10:20 Off the Shelf: Letters From My Windmill 10:35 One Planet 11:00 World News 11:05 Sounds Right 11:20 World Ranking 11:50 Sports Roundup 12:00 Newsdesk 12:30 Britain Today 12:45 Legal World 13:00 Newsdesk 13:30 Sports International 14:00 World News 14:05 Outlook 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 Newshour 16:00 World News 16:05 One Planet 16:30 Meridian (live) 17:00 World News 17:05 Sports Roundup 17:15 From Our Own Correspondent 17:30 Jazzmatazz 18:00 World News 18:15 Insight 18:30 Multitrack: X-Press 19:00 Europe Today 19:30 World Business Report 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 World News 20:15 Britain Today 20:30 Sports International 21:00 World News 21:05 One Planet 21:30 Legal World 21:45 Off the Shelf: Letters From My Windmill 22:00 Newshour 23:00 World News 23:05 World Business Report 23:20 Britain Today 23:30 On Screen 00:00 World News

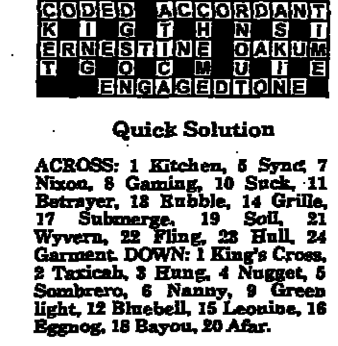
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 The academic field (6)
4 I'm engaged in property valuation (8)
9 Not often there's real trouble in the railway (6)
10 War that's breaking out in Panama? (5-3)
12 I return to a trivial item (4)
13 Split the pot (5)
14 Born at the King's Head—a low joint (4)
17 You'll be lucky to win one (4,2,6)
20 One whose pupils are told to make notes (5-7)
23 Tree, one found by the river (4)
24 I pick up key to look round Inuit house (5)
25 Forest's administrative fellow (4)
28 It's beard after the raid that nobody is found guilty (3,5)
29 Not how Anne Boleyn's ghost will collide with you (4-2)
30 Pass on the takings (8)
31 Game couple (6)

DOWN
1 Gun-support bearing (8)
2 French husband has a period by the sea (8)
3 This description is hardly fair comment (4)
5 The pleasure of compensation (12)
6 Rain is unusual here (4)
7 About to happen soon in the vicinity (2,4)
8 One of two that is set up to the right (6)
11 As set by one out to break a record? (8,4)
15 Humphrey's artless look to us appears phoney (5)
16 Possibly Indian form of canoe (5)
18 The adder is squirming when strung up (8)
19 I forsake the Law for the Artillery (8)
21 One who's learned to park a vehicle in the street (6)
22 PC Skinner (6)
26 Singer has altered a lot (4)
27 Twisted wire could be a danger to riverboats (4)



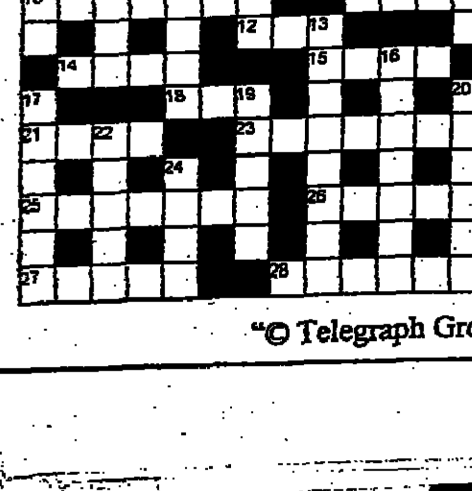
SOLUTIONS



Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Kitchen, 5 Sync, 7 Nixon, 8 Gaming, 10 Suck, 11 Betrayer, 13 Rubble, 14 Grille, 17 Submerge, 19 Soil, 21 Wyvern, 22 Fling, 23 Hull, 24 Garment. DOWN: 1 King's Cross, 2 Taxicab, 3 Hung, 4 Nugget, 5 Sombrero, 6 Nanny, 9 Green light, 12 Bluebell, 15 Leonine, 16 Eggnog, 18 Bayou, 20 Afar.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Take ship (6)
4 Type of flu (5)
8 Wild (5)
9 Instrument (mus.) (7)
10 Lingers (7)
11 Island (4)
12 Stub, finish (3)
14 French cheese (4)
15 Line (4)
18 Espy; a diocese (3)
21 Corpus (4)
23 Sights (7)
25 Detached (7)
26 Greek epic (5)
27 Scum, waste (5)
28 Concurs (6)

DOWN
1 Clasp (6)
2 Obstacle (7)
3 See liver (anag.) (8)
4 Church recess (4)
5 Piano key (5)
6 Pieces for nine (6)
7 Insult (5)
13 Sauce; bandage (8)
16 Supply (7)
17 Be plentiful (6)
19 Call out (5)
20 Underhand remarks (6)
22 Dance club (5)
24 Faces (sl.) (4)

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MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Snake Eyes 5 • Good Sign Bad Sign *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞Lawrence Weller Films 7 • The Beautiful Life of Angels∞Socrates 9:30 **G.G. GIL** Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Shakespeare in Love∞You've Got Mail 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Affliction∞Elizabeth 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt∞Lolita 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 4:30, 7:15 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers∞Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:30 **JERUSALEM THEATER** Central Station 7, 9:30 • Washington Square 7 **RAV CHEN 1-7** ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 **MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL** ☎ 5700868 Enemy of the State∞The Siege 4:45, 7:15, 10 **SMADAR** ☎ 5618168 Happiness 7:30 • Black Cat White Cat 5, 10

TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Lolita 11 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 1, 5:30, 10 • Character *(Dutch, Hebrew subtitles)* 11 a.m., 3:15, 7:30 **GAT** ☎6967888 Thin Red Line 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 **GLOBUS** ☎6081130/1 Shakespeare in Love∞You've Got Mail 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 **G.G. HOD 1-4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Head On∞The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 • Ronin 5, 7:30, 10 **LEV** ☎5288288 Black Cat White Cat 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Velvet Goldmine 12 noon, 2:30, 7:30, 10 • Happiness 12 noon, 4, 7, 9:45 • Girls' Night 12:30, 5 • The Dream Life of Angels 2:45, 7:30, 9:45 • Hana-Bi 5 **LEV AVIV** ☎6417148 Black Cat White Cat∞The Milky Way∞Hana-Bi 7:30, 10 • Dream Life of Angels 7:30 • Happiness 7:15, 10 • Nights of Cabiria 10 **LIMOR** ☎6968084 The Mighty 8 • The Shall We Dance 6 • Forbidden Love 9:45 **G.G. PE'ER** ☎5442141 Shakespeare in Love∞You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Affliction 5, 7:30, 10 • Dangerous Acts 5, 7:30, 1 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom∞Enemy of the State 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Parent Trap∞Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102674 Opera House Love At Second Glance∞Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Love At Second Glance 5, 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:30, 9:45 **TEL AVIV MUSEUM** My Son The Fanatic 5, 8, 10

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎8325755 Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30 • Character 7:15, 9:30 **CINEMATHEQUE** ☎ 8383424 The Decalogue 7 • Blue 9:30 **MORIAH** ☎8242477 Happiness 7:15, 9:30 **ORI** ☎8500056 Shakespeare in Love∞ You've Got Mail 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:45 • Elizabeth 4:30, 7:15, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 4:45, 7:15 **PANORAMA** ☎8382020 Panorama 4:30, 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail∞Central Station 4:30, 7, 9:30 **RAV-CHEN** ☎8500055 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Rush Hour 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 8674311 Thin Red Line 6, 9 • *Love At Second Glance* 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Thin Red Line 6, 9 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Little Voice 5, 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 The Waterboy 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Little Voice 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30

AFULA
RAV CHEN ☎6424047 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 7:15, 9:30

ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Rush Hour∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • The Siege 7:30, 10 • Parent Trap 5

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 You've Got Mail∞Girls Night 5, 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 Sliding Doors∞You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Lolita∞The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 7:30 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 **RAV CHEN** ☎6711221 The Waterboy∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Lolita 4:30, 7, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Central Station 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 5, 7:3 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45

EILAT
EILAT CINEMA The Waterboy∞Little Voice 7:30, 10 **GIL** ☎6340182 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 5, 7:30

HADERA
LEV ☎6343555 Rush Hour∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Black Cat White Cat 7:15, 10

HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 Thin Red Line 6:30, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10 **DANIEL** ☎ 9544044 Black Cat White Cat 7:30, 10 **STAR** ☎ 9589066 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 1

HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10

HOLON
GLOBUS Shakespeare in Love 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 **STAR** I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • Love at Second Glance∞Enemy of the State 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 1

KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Shakespeare in Love 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30 • Life is Beautiful 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL ☎8779877 Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:30, 7 • Prince of Egypt*(English dialogue)* 7, 9:30 • Shakespeare in Love∞Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Lolita∞You've Got Mail 7, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 7, 9:30 • Small Soldiers 4:30 • ANTZ 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Mousehunt 4:30 • The Magic Sword 4:30

KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Rush Hour∞Washington Square 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Siege 4:30, 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA
G.G. GIL I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour∞You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 10 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10

UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Rush Hour 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege∞You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:15, 7, 10

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Shakespeare in Love∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Shakespeare in Love∞You've Got Mail∞Central Station 5, 7:30 • The Truman Show Sun-Wed, 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 8618570 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45

OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN ☎ 6262758 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 7:15, 9:3 • Life is Beautiful 7, 9:30

OR YEHUDA G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 Washington Square∞Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show∞Girls Night 7:30, 10 •

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9087989 Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful∞Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 10 **G.G. HECHAL** ☎ 9317374 Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10

RA'ANANA
CIN MOFET ☎ 7482915 Dangerous Acts 8:30 **PARK** ☎ 7711321 Shakespeare in Love 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Stepmom 5, 7:30 • Life is Beautiful 10:15 **RA'ANAN** The Waterboy∞ Black Cat White Cat 5, 7:30, 10:15 • You've Got Mail∞The Siege 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Enemy of the State 5, 7:30, 10:15

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 6197121 Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • Shakespeare in Love 7:15, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour 9:45 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30 **RAV-OASIS 1-3** ☎ 6730687 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 9:45

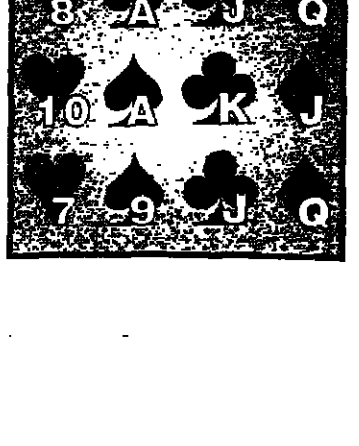
REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9362868 Lolita 7:15, 9:45 • Little Voice 7:30, 9:45 • Central Station 7:15, 9:45 • Character 7:15, 9:45 **RAV MOR** ☎ 9493595 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

RISHON LEZION
GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 **HAZAHAV** ☎ 9514968 Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt*(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 10 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 9670504 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • Life is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 **STAR** ☎ 9619985 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • Love at Second Glance∞Enemy of the State 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10

SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 Meet Joe Black 6:30, 9:30

YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5367910 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45

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Skidding Canadiens



Page 17

Yogi remembers Joe D



Page 18

Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

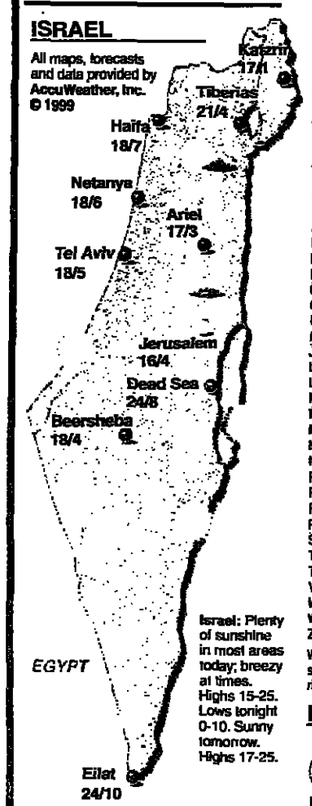
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THE WEATHER

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ISRAEL

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Israel: Plenty of sunshine in most areas today; breezy at times. Highs 15-25. Lows tonight 0-10. Sunny tomorrow. Highs 17-25.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Ariel	17/62	3/37/s	19/66	6/43/s
Beersheba	18/64	4/39/s	20/68	7/44/s
Dead Sea	24/75	8/46/s	23/73	10/50/s
Eilat	24/75	10/50/s	24/75	11/52/s
Haifa	18/64	7/44/s	19/66	8/46/s
Jerusalem	16/61	4/39/s	18/64	6/43/s
Katzrin	17/62	1/34/s	19/66	3/37/s
Netanya	18/64	6/43/s	19/66	7/44/s
Tel Aviv	18/64	5/41/s	19/66	8/46/s
Tiberias	21/70	4/39/s	23/73	7/44/s

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

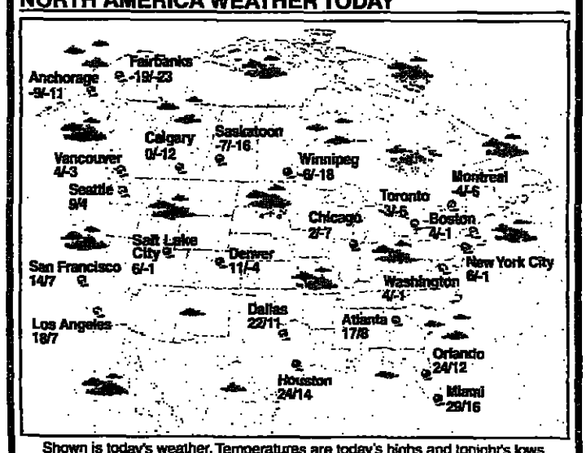
City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	6/43	3/37/c	8/48	7/44/sh
Beijing	8/46	-3/27/s	5/41	3/37/an
Berlin	8/46	1/34/sh	8/46	7/44/c
Brussels	8/46	7/44/r	11/52	10/50/r
Cairo	22/71	8/46/s	23/73	10/50/s
Chicago	2/35	-7/20/pc	2/35	-7/20/sf
Frankfurt	6/43	3/37/sh	4/39	-2/29/c
Hong Kong	26/79	21/70/pc	26/79	20/68/pc
Johannesburg	28/82	14/57/pc	28/82	16/61/s
London	6/43	4/39/sh	8/46	6/43/c
Los Angeles	18/64	7/44/pc	18/64	8/46/sh
Madrid	17/62	8/46/pc	17/62	3/37/sh
Mexico City	28/82	10/50/s	27/80	12/53/s
Montreal	-4/25	-6/22/pc	2/35	-7/20/pc
Moscow	-5/24	-10/15/s	-4/25	-7/20/sn
New York	6/43	-1/31/pc	7/44	-1/31/c
Paris	8/46	7/44/r	10/50	9/48/r
Prague	8/46	8/45/r	8/46	3/37/r
Rio de Janeiro	33/91	25/77/sh	30/86	24/75/r
Rome	16/61	6/43/pc	19/66	10/50/s
Sydney	26/79	18/64/s	26/79	18/64/pc
Tokyo	12/53	6/43/c	9/48	7/44/sh
Toronto	-3/27	-6/22/pc	1/34	-8/18/pc
Vienna	11/52	6/43/c	14/57	9/48/c
Warsaw	6/43	3/37/r	6/43	4/39/c
Washington	4/39	-1/31/sf	8/46	-1/31/pc
Zurich	11/52	8/46/sh	15/59	9/48/sh

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, I-ice

MOON PHASES

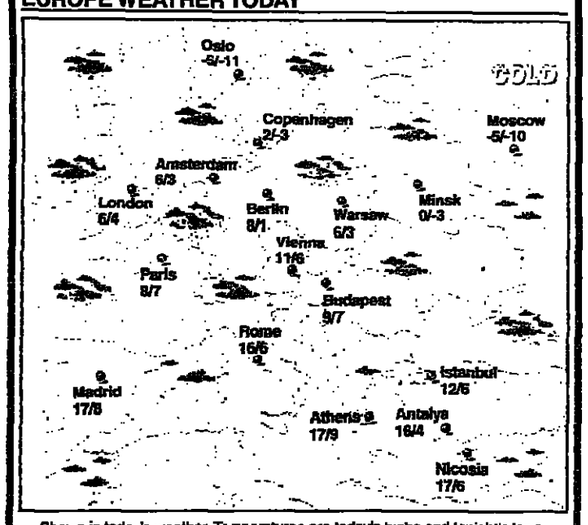
Last	New	First	Full
Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24	Apr 1

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



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EL AL Weekends

Heat beat 76ers at the buzzer

MIAMI (AP) – Dan Majerle rebounded Tim Hardaway's miss to score with 1.1 seconds remaining as the Miami Heat overcame an injury to Alonzo Mourning to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 91-89 Monday night.

Terry Porter paced foul-plagued Miami with 20 points, while Allen Iverson, the NBA's leading scorer, led Philadelphia with 28.

The Heat have won 12 of their last 14 games and seven in a row at home. They have beaten the 76ers nine straight times, including an 89-78 win Friday in Philadelphia.

Mourning injured his right ankle 36 seconds into the second half when he picked up his fourth foul while Theo Ratliff scored from close range. Mourning's ankle was retaped on the bench, where he stayed until 9:19 remained in the game. Fourteen seconds later, he returned to the sidelines with his fifth foul.

Pistons 75, Wizards 71

Grant Hill had 19 points, eight assists and eight rebounds to lead surging Detroit to a home win. Detroit has won seven of eight, while the Wizards have just two wins in their last eight.

Loy Vaught added a season-high 18 points and eight rebounds for Detroit, while Lindsey Hunter scored 16.

Mitch Richmond led the Wizards with 22 points, while ex-Piston Otis Thorpe had nine points and 17 rebounds.

Hawks 114, Magic 110

Mookie Blaylock's steal of an inbounds pass with 5.4 seconds remaining helped Atlanta hang on to snap the Magic's 10-game home winning streak.

Nick Anderson hit consecutive 3-pointers to pull Orlando to 111-110 with 15.2 seconds remaining.

The Magic fouled Blaylock after Anderson's second 3-pointer, but he missed both free throws. Atlanta controlled the rebound after the second miss and Steve Smith was fouled. He made both shots to put Atlanta ahead 113-110 with nine seconds remaining.

Blaylock then stepped in front of an inbounds pass from Horace Grant, was fouled and made one of two free throws for the final margin.

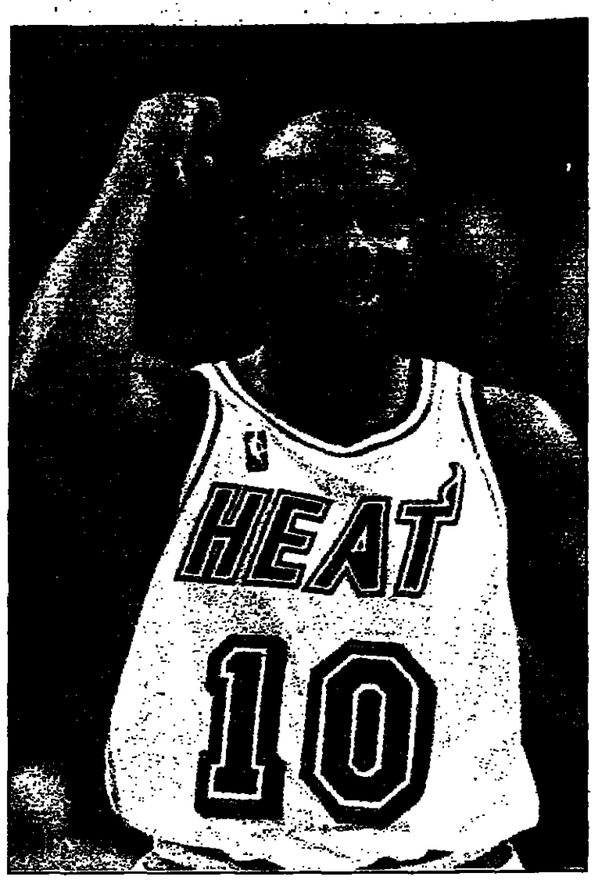
Smith led Atlanta with 24 points and Dikembe Mutombo added 18 points and 17 rebounds. Alan Henderson had 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Bucks 81, Bulls 76

Ray Allen scored 17 points and host Milwaukee overcame an early 11-point fourth-quarter deficit for their third victory over the Bulls in 20 days.

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Standings, boxes, Page 18



TOO HOT TO HANDLE – Miami Heat's Tim Hardaway celebrates after a three-pointer in first-quarter action. (Reuters)

Hapoel Jerusalem back down

State Cup basketball final set for Yad Eliahu

By ORI LEWIS and OFER RONEN-ABELS

After 24 hours of uncertainty and mediation efforts, Hapoel Jerusalem basketball club yesterday agreed to climb down from their threat to boycott the State Cup final next week.

The Jerusalemites will meet Maccabi Tel Aviv at Yad Eliahu on March 18 as planned, but this will be the last State Cup final of its kind after a compromise agreement was reached by Jerusalem and the Israel Basketball Association, whose presidium held an emergency session yesterday evening. From next year, the State Cup semifinals and final will be played at a neutral venue, although the exact details have yet to be worked out, according to IBA chairman Danny Kesten.

Until now the semifinals and the final have always been held at the 10,000-seat Yad Eliahu stadium, which is the only large-sized indoor arena in Israel. Hapoel had complained that Maccabi Tel Aviv held an unfair advantage, because the game would be played at their home court.

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